

**9th STANDARD
FIRST LANGUAGE ENGLISH**

THE BEST ADVICE I EVER HAD

- Mrs. Vijayalakshmi Pandit

C2. Answer the following questions.

1. Why was Mrs. Vijayalakshmi Pandit in anguish?

Ans. Mrs. Vijayalakshmi Pandit was in anguish as she lost her husband and had no individual existence in the eyes of Indian law. Both she and her daughters were not entitled to any share of her family property.

2. In paragraph 3, Mrs. Pandit speaks about “antiquated law.” What is referred to as antiquated law?

Ans. Antiquated law refers to the Indian law according to which women were recognized only through the relationship to men and not entitled to any share of their family property.

3. Why was Mrs. Pandit going to America, according to Gandhiji?

Ans. According to Gandhiji Mrs. Pandit was going to a new country to escape from the situation as she was unhappy and bitter towards her family.

4. What did Gandhiji want Mrs. Pandit to do before going abroad? What was Mrs. Pandit’s response to that?

Ans. Gandhiji wanted Mrs. Pandit to meet her family members and say goodbye as it was a courtesy but Mrs. Pandit refused to meet the people who harmed her.

5. How did Gandhiji make Mrs. Pandit meet her relatives?

Ans. Gandhiji gave a counsel that no one can harm us except ourselves. He told that she couldn’t find happiness outside when there is bitterness in heart. He asked her to be little humble and cleanse her own heart.

6. **“Must you inflict further injury on yourself?”**

a) **What is the injury referred to here?**

Ans. Injury referred to here is the sorrow of Mrs. Pandit losing her husband.

b) **Why did Gandhiji ask Mrs. Pandit not to hurt herself?**

Ans. Gandhiji asked Mrs. Pandit not to hurt herself because she was already in a deep sorrow losing her husband.

7. **Why did Mrs. Pandit not meet her relatives in the beginning before she left for America?**

Ans. Mrs. Pandit did not like to meet her relatives in the beginning before she left for America because she had bitterness towards them as they supported the antiquated law and did not give any share in the family property.

8. **“I lifted the debate back to where it belonged.” What was the debate about?**

Ans. The debate took place in New York when she was the leader of the delegation to the United Nations regarding India’s complaint about the treatment of the Indian origin in South Africa.

9. **Mrs. Pandit recollected the advice of Gandhiji often. What was the advice?**

Ans. The advice of Gandhiji that Mrs. Pandit often recollected was “No one can harm you except yourself.”

10. **After visiting her relatives, Mrs. Pandit commented, “I felt as if a great burden had been lifted and I was free to be myself.” Have you experienced such a situation or a feeling in your life? Discuss.**

Ans. Yes, I have been in this situation when me and my friend fought over a rifle, we were very angry and refused to talk to each other. Later, forgetting everything, he invited me on his birthday and I was too angry to attend the party. I told my mom that I didn’t want to go to his party. But my mother like Gandhiji consoled me and asked me to be a little humble and attend the party. I reluctantly attended the birthday party. He was very happy and we apologized each other and had lots of fun in the party. This really made me feel light hearted and I am very thankful to my mother.

11. **What do you infer about the relationship between Mrs. Pandit and Gandhiji from reading this lesson?**

Ans. From this lesson we can understand that Mrs. Pandit regarded Gandhiji very much. He was her mentor who brought a significant change in her life and helped her to retain her perspectives over life.

12. **Describe the state of mind of the cook referred to in the lesson.**

Ans. The cook was drunk and his eyes were glazed. Ignoring his job , sitting on a table, waving his ladle and singing a song.

Extracts:

1. "Yet in law we women were still recognized only through our relationship to men."

a) Why does the speaker say so?

Ans. The speaker says so because of her husband's death. In the eyes of Indian law she had no individual existence. She and her daughters were not entitled to share any of the family property.

b) What is the mood of the speaker while speaking the above words?

Ans. The speaker was in a deep sorrow as a widow. She was bitter towards her family members who supported the antiquated law.

2. "No one can harm you except yourself."

a) Identify the speaker.

Ans. The speaker of the above sentence is Mahatma Gandhiji.

b) Whom is the speaker addressing?

Ans. The speaker is addressing Mrs. Vijayalakshmi Pandit.

c) What does the speaker mean by the above words?

Ans. The speaker means to say that no one can harm us except ourselves. Bitterness in our heart causes much injury to us unless we check it

3. "I struck back with the same sharp weapon."

a) Who is the "I" here, and at whom did the speaker strike back?

Ans. "I" in this context is Mrs. Pandit and she struck back her opponents of delegation in the United States in New York.

b) What was the weapon used by the speaker?

Ans. The speaker used the same harsh words like her opponents as the weapon.

c) What was the need to strike back?

Ans. It was needed to strike back because her opponents made personal attacks harming India's prestige which was intolerable.

Answer the following:

1. Mrs. Pandit had to face a lot of humiliating situations in her life. Give a brief account of the situations and comment on them.

Ans. Mrs. Pandit had to face a lot of humiliating situations in her life. She was helpless when she lost her husband and the individual existence in the eyes of the Indian law. Though she took part in freedom movements along with men, she was well recognized. As a widow without a son she was denied to share the family property and even her two daughters were not entitled to share it. Her family members created difficult situation supporting antiquated law. She was bitter towards her family members as they

supported the antiquated law.

2. Comment on the title of the lesson with respect to Mrs. Pandit's experiences in different situations of her life.

Ans. Mrs. Vijayalakshmi Pandit listened to the advice given by Gandhiji which suits the title "THE BEST ADVICE I EVER HAD." The title is very appropriate for the lesson. Mrs.

Pandit was very impressed by the advice which helped her to find peace when she was in a deep sorrow of losing her loved one. Following the noble advice she over comes the pain and wins the debate of Indian delegation to the United Nations. It helped her to retain her perspective even in small matters.

3. From a reading of the lesson, write a note on Mrs. Vijayalakshmi Pandit's accomplishments and her contributions to India.

Ans. Mrs. Vijayalakshmi Pandit's accomplishments and her contribution to India are, she was active in freedom movement and held high in national and international positions. She was India's Ambassador to the Soviet Union, the Union States, Mexico, Ireland and

Spain. She has given considerable diplomatic service to the nation. She wrote and contributed articles to the reputed magazine, 'The Reader's Digest'.

4. "Means are as important as the end," said Gandhiji. Do you agree with this view? Justify your answer.

Ans. According to Gandhiji means are as important as the ends, I agree with this view. We should seek virtuous means to achieve our ends. We should always walk on the moral road. Only then we can have a spotless character and will be respected by the people. A virtuous person is remembered even long after his final departure from the world.

5. Assume yourself to be a social activist. Write an article suggesting ways and means of removing gender discrimination that still exists in our society. You can discuss in groups and write it down.

Ans. "God is present where women are worshipped" is an old saying. There has been a continuous downfall in the position of women. Before independence they were kept indoors, denying education, girls are looked down upon and considered as a burden to the family.

They have been exploited by men since ages. They are the victims of many social evils. Although the constitution provides equal rights to women and there are laws against dowry and violence against women, their execution is very poor. It is the time to realize and perform the position of women. In this regard people should join hands with government to uplift the position of women.

THE GRASS IS REALLY LIKE ME

- Kishwar Naheed

Answer the following

1. What does the poet mean by the phrase, “Raise its head?”

Ans. The phrase “raise its head” means that the grass raises its head to grow.

2. Explain the phrase, “Unfurl underfoot to fulfill itself.”

Ans. The phrase “unfurl underfoot to fulfill itself” means that the grass despite being trampled tries to grow further, similarly, women try to prosper though they are suppressed (exploited) by the dominating elements in the society.

3. Refer to lines four and five. Are they contrasting? Which one do you think the poet referring to?

Ans. I think the lines four and five are not contrasting. Instead in the lines the poetess is expressing her doubt. She says that women are weak and submissive to men. She asks if the wetness in grass shows shameful or heat of emotions.

4. The poet is associating herself with the grass. Why? When she says “me” is she referring to herself or the womenfolk?

Ans. The poet is associating herself with the grass. She finds much similarity between grass and women. Grass is not allowed to grow. The lawnmower cuts it down when it raises its head to grow. In the same manner, women are not free to prosper her growth and they are suppressed by men. When the poetess says “me” she is not only referring to herself but the entire womenfolk.

5. Do you think the “lawnmowers” are the same in the case of the grass and the poet?

Ans. Yes, I think the lawnmowers are the same in the case of the grass and the poet. In case of grass the lawnmowers cut it down when it grows. In case of the women the lawnmowers are the men who exploit them.

6. Pick out the line from which the poet shifts the attention from “grass” to “woman.” Who is the “you in line 11?

Ans. The poet shifts the attention from grass to woman from the line “How you strive and endeavour to level woman down too!” The word “you” in line 11 stands for men who strive and endeavour to level women down.

7. What does the phrase “scorching defeat” refer to? What does the poet mean by the words “grafted on to the earth?”

Ans. The phrase “scorching defeat” refers to the defeat of women who do not face the challenges lacking courage. She is weak and helpless, dominated by men. By the phrase “grafted on the earth” the poetess means that women who lack courage to face the society are united to the earth paving way for the mighty ones.

8. What is the poet trying to tell us in lines 18 and 19?

Ans. In the lines 18 and 19 the poetess is trying to convey we the women (a weak section) will be exploited by men. They lose their identity and self-dignity; such women who can't stand up are directly compared to the straw which can't grow again.

9. “But neither the earth’s nor woman’s Desire

to manifest life dies”

Explain the meaning of the above lines.

Ans. The above two lines express the woman’s courage and her desire for life, in the same way, grass being cut many times grows further.

However, man tries to subdue a woman, he will not be successful in his attempt as women with patience and perseverance like the earth will prosper. She can't be suppressed by any force.

A3. Answer in brief:

1. The poet says “the grass is also like me.” How does she bring out this relationship in the second stanza?

Ans. The poetess brings out the relationship between grass and women. She says that like women in the society grass is not allowed to grow. As soon as it grows, it is cut down; still it tends to grow back.

2. Explain the ironical ideas used by the poet in the last stanza. How do you analyze them?

Ans. In the last stanza the poet ironically describes the women who are weak and submissive, she calls them straw who can't face the challenges and perish soon, paving way for the mighty ones.

3. The poet has used some unusual words and phrases to evoke images in the reader's mind as for instance, "scorching sense of shame." Such a poetic device is called imagery. Pick out such phrases from the poem.

Ans. Such phrases from the poem are:

- 1) Raise its head
- 2) The lawnmower
- 3) Flattening it into velvet
- 4) Mows it down
- 5) Grafted on the earth
- 6) Merely straw not grass.

Summary:

The poem 'The Grass Is Really Like Me' is a feministic poem. The poet compares herself to the grass. The poet is associating herself with the grass because she feels that the condition of women and of the grass is the same. When she says 'me', she refers to the entire womenfolk. There are many points of similarity between the grass and a woman. In the case of the grass the lawn mower cuts down all the grass, but in the case of the poetess, the dominating society suppresses all her efforts to come up.

When the grass is cut or grafted, it grows again. Similarly, a woman's feelings and emotions, which are suppressed by the dominant section of the society, rise up again and again. The phrase 'raise its head' implies that when women raise their voice for freedom and agitate for it, like the grass under the feet, they are trying to grow up even in their subjugated position. In the woman who raises her head, the emotions are contrasting. Even though the sense of

shame is insufferable; her inability to retaliate keeps her silent. However, internally her heart yearns for equality.

The phrase 'scorching defeat' refers to painful burning result of the courage shown by the women. The poetess means that the defeated are suppressed just as the grass is cut and thrown down.

The poet is trying to tell us that the defeat makes the way for the bigger or the stronger. The defeated grass is cut and fallen on the ground. The remaining straw makes way for the stronger machine. Similarly, the women who remain recessive, make way for the dominant society.

The earth's desire is to make the seedling grow. That is why even after repeated grafting, the grass grows. In the same way, woman's desire to express or unfurl cannot be suppressed. The dominant society may curb it repeatedly but her desire will 'raise the head' again.

MAURITIUS

- R.K. Laxman

Answer the following:

1. Where is Mauritius?

ANSWER: - Mauritius is a tiny speck of an island situated below the equator on the twentieth parallel, some 4500 km south west of Bombay.

2. Name the people of different origins found in Mauritius?

ANSWER: - The people of different origins found in Mauritius are Africans, Chinese, Bihari's, Dutch, Persians, Tamils, Arabs, French and English.

3. Who are referred to as the “buccaneering trinity” of those days? Why are they called so? **ANSWER: - The Dutch, the French and the English are referred to as the buccaneering trinity of those days. They are called so because they would constantly wage battle for the possession of the island for its spices and sugar or just for the strategic possession on the maritime route to the east, conveniently placed as it was for piratical purpose.**

4. List out some “very musical but unpronounceable names” as found by the author? **ANSWER: - Very musical but unpronounceable names “as found by the author are Trouauz Biches, Beau, Bassin Quarter, Bones, Cure pipe, Rosse Belle and so on.**

5. What is the flora and a found in Mauritius?

ANSWER: - The trees in Mauritius are short and gnarled looking just like overgrown Bonsai. The jungles do not have tigers or lions not even poisonous insects. The bat was the only mammal that existed. Dodo a bird which could not fly was the native of the island and is extinct.

6. How is the nature cruel to the people of Mauritius?

ANSWER: - Nature is very much cruel to the people of Mauritius. They shudder to think the of the night the King cyclone stuck them. It relentlessly flattened everything causing devastation once every 15 years. It appears promptly to surprise the people of Mauritius.

7. Name some aquatic creatures sighted by the author?

ANSWER: - Crabs, lobsters, a school of coloured bright, lemon, yellow with black bars, fishes with spikes, long tail and battered faces are some of the aquatic creatures sighted by the author.

II. In groups of 3 or 4 discuss the answer for the following questions and then present your answer:

1. Why was it difficult for the author to locate Mauritius in his Atlas?

ANSWER: - The world Atlas, the author had many little dots and specks. It was an old one and time, the weather and generations of cockroach had spoiled it so it was with some difficulty for the author to locate Mauritius in the vastness of Indian ocean.

2. What is the reason for the people of different countries to settle in Mauritius?

ANSWER:

- The people of different countries were brought to the Island as slaves or later as indentured Labour's to work in sugarcane field and factories or to cut timbers in the jungle. Gradually, their roots in their original homelands withered and they settled down permanently in Mauritius.

3. How does the author explain the absence of protocol among the government officials and ministers in Mauritius?

ANS: - The author explains that the cabinet ministers and others in high positions do not act as if they were born to the grace. They are unassuming, accessible, communicative and above all go about without a protective shield just like ordinary people. Even the residence of the Prime Minister of Mauritius is located in a busy street lined with shops and crawling traffic.

4. Give the description of mountains as given by the author?

ANS: - The blue mountains do not have the traditional monotonous pyramidal shapes. Their outlines are freakish and whimsical with unexpected sweeps and perpendicular drops and pin pointed peaks precariously doing a balancing act with boulders as big as a skyscraper.

5. How the people of Mauritius are described fighting against the cruel jaws of nature? **ANS:** - The people of Mauritius are actually quite used to facing these storms as they are an annual event. They shudder to think of the night. The king cyclone struck them flattening everything. But the memory of the disaster fades away. The roof tops are put up elegantly. The people of Mauritius are highly adventurous in fighting against cyclones.

6. Why would be the future of Mauritius as opined by the author?

ANS: - The author opines that in future, Mauritius may be the victim of industrial growth and would not be able to preserve its pristine charm. The government is eager to have foreign entrepreneurs to start industries as the entire economy is dependent on a single commodity i.e., sugar. So, the author opines that with industries growth this beautiful island may be affected by pollution, unemployment slums, taxation etc. and it may not be a paradise on earth.

C3. Compare and contrast the arriving and departing experiences of the author during his flight.

Does it suggest anything to you?

ANS: - The author had quite contrasting experience between his arrival and departure on the island. He enjoyed its pristine charm, admired its physical features and the unpolluted atmosphere. But while departing from there, he was very anxious that industrial growth in future may affect the beautiful island. It clearly suggests to us that man through industries is posing threat to the nature polluting the environment and spoiling the nature.

AFRICA

-David Diop.

1. “Red scars” – what does this term in the poem refer to?

Ans: The phrase “Red scars” refer to the scars or marks made on the trembling back of the slaves with the whip by their masters. This phrase reflects the torture inflicted upon the slaves by the whites.

2. Pick out the lines that talk about the humiliation suffered by the Africans.

Ans: Through this poem, the poet makes a soothing attack on the system of slavery. ‘Is this you this back that is bent. This back that breaks under the weight of humiliation. This back trembling with red scars and saying yes to the whip under the midday sun.’ These lines talk about the humiliation suffered by the Africans.

3. “That trees there in splendid loneliness”-Explain this phrase with reference to the feelings of the poet about his country.

Ans: Through this phrase, the poet is expressed his strong hope that Africa will win freedom and the spirit of freedom cannot be suppressed. This country will no longer suffer humiliation and soon throw out the shackles of slavery.

4. “That grows again patiently obstinately and its fruit gradually acquires the bitter taste of liberty”.

a) What does “That” refer to?

Ans: “That” refers to Africa, his country which is struggling hard against the colonists.

b) How does it grow?

Ans: It grows patiently and obstinately.

c) What does “bitter taste of liberty” refer to?

Ans: The phrase, “bitter taste of liberty” implies the fact that liberty cannot be attained easily. It will be achieved through much struggle and sacrifice. Freedom from slavery will be very sweet but it cannot be got from bitterness.

Summary:

David Diop’s poem ‘Africa’ reflects his hope for an independent African nation, and the problems brought to the continent by colonialism. Through this poem Diop attempts to give a message of hope and resistance to the people of Africa. The poem is about Africa a land where the poet has not seen but heard about it from his grandmother’s songs. His choice of words like ‘distant’ symbolizes how far he is from his country, a feeling based on his real-life as he lived in France throughout his childhood and only visited Africa in the 1950’.

Despite this, he paints a vivid scene of Africa and the proud warriors in ‘ancestral Savannahs’. The poet misses his homeland by his stress on the word ‘Africa’, and he continues to call it ‘My Africa’ to emphasize it is his land and his feelings of patriotism towards it. He continues to say that he has never known Africa, but despite the distance he cannot deny how much it is a part of him. The ‘beautiful black blood’ which flows in his veins, describes his African descent and shows how much Africa is a part of him and his love for it and its people. The next few lines are angry and accusatory as he stresses that it is the blood and sweat of his people which is irrigating the fields for the benefit of other people. The blood of their sweat, the sweat of their work, the work of their slavery and the slavery of their children has enriched the distant lands. By this he is pointing a finger at the colonialists who exploited black people and used them as slaves to profit from their hard labour. Therefore, the poet wants to know what the real Africa is. The poet urges the black people to stand up to the pain and the humiliation that they are suffering in their own land. He reminds them of the strength and pride they have in them and to say no to the whip of the colonialist which makes them work under the hot midday sun and leaves scars on their backs. Despite this suffering, he urges them to be strong and remain unbent and not let this break them despite the weight of their suffering. The poet’s earnest query is answered by a grave voice. The poet personifies the African continent as an angry elder. The wise voice of Africa chides him for thinking ‘impetuous’ thoughts, implying that the continent is aware of impending changes or revolution. It urges the Africans to be patient and not hasty like children as there is change on the horizon. The voice talks about a tree which is found alone amidst white and faded flowers. The tree ‘young and strong’ represents the young people of Africa who are patiently but ‘obstinately’ waiting until they get the liberty they want. At the movement the tree is alone, meaning the African struggle in a lonely battle but they will achieve the freedom and liberty they want no matter how bitter the taste is in getting it. The tree is among the ‘white and faded’ flowers by which he means the white colonialists will fade in time while the youthful Africans will grow in strength and wait for their moment of freedom.

THE COLLECTORS

Answer the following

1. Why was the group looking for the shelter?

ANS:- The group was looking for the shelter it suddenly started raining heavily when they were out for an adventure walk.

2. How far was the village from the place the group was living in?

ANS: The village was three miles away from the place where the group was living.

3. Why did Mr. Hunt hesitate to seek shelter in the house?

ANS:- Mr. Hunt hesitated to take shelter in the house because it was a lonely place and it wasn't there the previous time he had walked there. He also felt that since all of them were dripping wet it was not decent to go into somebody's house.

4. Name the occupants of the house?

ANS:- The occupants of the house were Mr. and Mrs. Brown.

5. What seemed unnatural in the house to children?

ANS:- The children felt that the house was very unnatural because the kitchen looked very empty. There were no plates, pots, or pans the cupboards were empty and the fridge was also empty.

6. What was unnatural with Mrs. Brown's hand?

ANS:- Mrs. Brown had seven fingers on both hands.

7. On what pretext did the occupants of the house say to the children?

ANS:- The occupants of the house asked the children to sit in the kitchen and asked the teacher to sit in living room. They separated them saying there was not enough place in the living room for all to sit.

8. What did the children find the larger cupboard?

ANS:- The children found a lot of electronic equipment in the larger cupboard, there were dials, digital read-outs, coloured lights and a mass of other electronic equipment's.

9. when Pete went to Mr. Hunt, Mr. Hunt was not moving and was staring blank because.

a) He was thinking.

b) He was drugged

c) He was meditating.

ANS:- b) he was drugged.

10. When Pete went to Mr. Hunt, Pete heard the browns talking to each other but could not understand. What they were saying. Why?

ANS:- Pete could not understand what the Browns were talking to each other because they were not humans and were talking in an alien language.

11. Why did the Pete prevent other children from taking the drink?

ANS:- Pete prevented the other children from taking the orange juice because he suspected like the drink which his teachers had drunk.

12. Where were the alien taking the children?

ANS:- The aliens were taking the children to their home planet.

13. Why were the aliens collecting the creatures from other planet?

ANS:- The aliens were collecting creatures from other planets for experiments and scientific study.

14. Where was the control of the backdoor located?

ANS:-The control of the backdoor was located on the left of the panel in the large cupboard. It was a mark with yellow lights.

15. After sending all the others out of the spaceship, how did Pete and Glenn manage to escape from the aliens?

ANS:- Pete ordered Mr. and Mrs. Brown to go through the back door behind them and close it. They threatened to smash the equipment if they did not obey him when they went out, he and Glenn escaped through the backdoor

IV. Answer the following questions:-

1. **What circumstances forced the party to take shelter in the spaceship?**

Answer:- The six teachers and the three children were out for an adventure walk suddenly it started raining heavily and as the village was three miles away they decided to take shelter in a house they saw in the country side. They were not aware that the house was in fact a space ship.

2. **List the things that made the children feel uncomfortable in the kitchen. Answer:-** Kitchen is like a hospital.

❖ No plates no pots and pans.

❖ The cupboard is quite empty.

❖ The fridge is also empty.

3. **Why couldn't escape the children either through the backdoor or the window?**

Answer:-The children tried breaking the backdoor and the window but could not do so. They realized that the glass was unbreakable. Hence they couldn't open neither the door nor the window and escape. In fact, the controls for opening the door and window were in the electronic panel in the big cupboard.

❖ Language used by the Browns.

❖ Different ways in which the children tried to get out of the house.

4. **List the following:-**

- a. **Things that were in the kitchen.**

Answer:- Dials, digital readouts coloured lights and a mass of other electronic equipment.

- b. **Usual features of the Browns.**

Answer:- Usual features of the Browns Mrs. Brown had seven fingers on both the hands, their eyes were all one colour, they didn't have any black sort of centres.

- c. **Language used by the Browns.**

Answer:- Language used by the Browns was alien language that sounded like hissing and clicking.

- d. **Different ways in which the children tried to get out of the house?**

Answer:- The children tried to smash the window open with a stick. Finally, they got out by threatening Mrs. Brown.

V. Answer the following:-

1 .What suspicion did the children have about the Brown and their house? What convincing reasons did Mrs. Brown come up with?

ANS:- When the children were left in the kitchen they found it very odd there were nothing in the kitchen no pans , pots, or plates, the fridge was empty and disconnected. They saw that Mrs. Brown looked very odd with seven fingers in each hand, her eyes all in one colour. They heard the Brown's talking to another in a hissing and clicking tone. The children who thought till then that the Browns were thieves realized that they were in fact aliens. They were sure of it they saw a large system of electronic equipment in the cupboard and the doors and windows locked and unbreakable when the children questioned Mrs. Brown about the empty kitchen; she said that nothing was set since they had just moved in. When the children asked her about the electronic panel in the cupboard, she said that her husband was a scientist and it was a part of his work. The doors and windows were burglar proof and auto closing because they did not want their expensive equipment to be stolen.

2. How did Pete become instrumental saving the teachers and his mates?

ANS:- Pete outsmarted the aliens. He was the first one to understand that Mr. and Mrs. Brown had drugged the teachers. He immediately grew cautious and kept the walking stick with him for possible confrontation with the Browns. He also cautioned the children not to drink the orange juice.

THE VILLAGE SCHOOL MASTER.

- Oliver Goldsmith

Answer the following questions:

1. Where was the school located?

Ans: The school was located near the school master's mansion in Auburn village.

2. How did the children react to the school master's jokes?

Ans: The children laughed with counterfeited glee. They thoroughly enjoyed his jokes every morning.

3. How could the children find the morning disaster?

Ans: The children could find the morning disaster in the master's face. This shows that the children saw on the master's face the misfortune they have to face on the day.

4. The school master was

- a) Kind
- b) Severe
- c) Kind as well as severe

Ans: Kind as well as severe.

5. Which of the following is not true of the village school master?

- a) He could write poems and songs.
- b) He could write and cipher.
- c) He could measure lands.
- d) He could argue even when he was

defeated. **Ans:** He could write poems and songs.

6. What puzzled the villagers?

Ans: The enormous knowledge and skills of the schoolmaster were wonders for the village. They were puzzled how such a small head could carry such vastness of knowledge.

7. Why does Oliver goldsmith say that the "blossom'd furze" was "unprofitably gay"?

Ans: Oliver goldsmith says that the blossom'd furze was unprofitably gay because the lush grass spread out over there in nature served no purpose.

Answer the following in two or three sentences:

1. What is the children's view of the teacher?

Ans: The children were very afraid of their school master and used to behave in such a way as not to make him lose his temper if the school master cracked a joke, all of them used to laugh whether they found it amusing or not.

2. Why did the villagers respect the school master?

Ans: The villagers respected the school master because they were amazed and wondered that his small head would carry all things.

**3. What impression does the poem give you of the
a) Qualities b) Abilities of the village school master?**

Ans: The qualities of the village school master are:

He is severe but kind

Abilities of the school master are:

He is good at writing, cipher, measuring lands, terms and tides.

4. Pick out the words that convey the different emotions of the poet.

Ans: The poet conveys the different emotions of humour, respect, fun, fear in the poem when he describes the village school master.

5. Describe the skills of the village school master which made the people wonder?

Ans: The village school master was certainly able to write and code/decode messages. He could measure the land, and even give the forecast of tides and he could predict the future. These qualities and skills of the school master made the people marvel at him.

6. Can you identify the mood of the speaker? Do you consider this poem a serious piece or a humorous one? Justify your answer.

Ans: The mood of the speaker is to touch the values and bring about the significance of the skills and qualities of a school master. It is not a humorous one but it is a serious one when the villagers started checking the skills of the master, he proved that he owned.

Answer the following in brief:

1. **Would you consider the village school master an ideal teacher in the present contact?**

Ans: Yes, I would consider the village school master as an ideal teacher in the present as we are unwilling learners. In this electronic world internet and media they seem to have lost their interest in studies. Children are expected by the parents to make miracles. In this situation teachers are like village school master as the need of the hour to implement intellectual skills the teachers who can be strict commanding fear and respect like village school master will implement knowledge perfectly to the present days of students. If the teachers spare the rod he will spoil the child.

The Portrait of the lady.

-Khushwanth Singh

I. Answer the following:-

1. Read the paragraph 2 there are a few sentences which speak about the grandmother's features. Pick out those sentences and write them?

ANS:- Khushwant Singh's grandmother was always short and fat and slightly bent. Her face was criss-cross of wrinkles running everywhere. She could never be pretty but was always beautiful. She hobbled about the house in spotless white one hand resting on her waist to balance her stoop and telling the beads of rosary.

2. "She used to get me ready for school." How did grandmother get the author ready for school?

ANS:- The grandmother woke him up early morning , bathed him and dressed him to go to school. She fetched him wooden slate which was washed and plastered with yellow chalk along with an earthen ink pot, red pen by tying all in a bundle – she served thick chapathi with butter and sugar spread on it for breakfast.

3. Why did the grandmother accompany the author to the school?

ANS:- The grandmother accompanied the author to the school because the school was attached to the temple.

4. "That was a turning point in a friendship." What was the turning point?

ANS:- The turning point in their friendship was when the author's parents were comfortably settled in the city. They sent a word to them and they shared a same home in the city. The grandmother has no longer come to school with him as he used to go to an English medium school in a motor bus.

5. What made the grandmother unhappy? Why?

ANS:- The author comes back from school, the grandmother asks what the teacher had taught him. He would tell her English words and little things of western science and learning the law of gravity, Archimedes principles, the world being unhappy and she was distressed that there was no teaching about God and the scriptures.

II. Answer the following questions:

1. “The thought was almost revolting.”

What is “the thought” referred to? Why does the author use the word ‘revolting to describe the thought?

ANS: The grandfather in the portrait didn’t look as a person who had wife and children. But he looked as if he could have many grandchildren. The thought of grandmother being young and pretty was revolting.

2. How did the grandmother help the author as a boy during his school days?

ANS: The grandmother woke him up early morning to get him ready to school. She bathed and dressed him and he fetched a wooden slate which was plastered with chalk a pen and an earthen ink –pot. She tied them all in a bundle and handed it to him she served him a thick chapathi with a little butter and sugar spread on it at breakfast

3. Describe the relation between animals /birds (dogs and sparrows) and the grandmother?

ANS:-Grandmother was very compassion towards animals and birds. She carried several stale chapathi with her for dogs in the street. In the city she fed sparrows in the courtyards while sitting in verandah. She broke the bread into little bits, hundreds of little breads collected round her creating a veritable bedloom of chirruping’s some came and perched on her legs but she never shooed them away.

4. Describe the three stages of relationship between the author and his grandmother (before he went abroad).

Answer: In his childhood days the author had close relationship with his grandmother. When his parents left him with her and went to live in city. She used to accompany him to the temple when his parents settled in the city. There was a change in the friendship between them. He used to go to English medium school in a motorbus. She no longer accompanied him there were no dogs in the streets. When he went to the university, he was given a room of his own and the life of friendship was snapped. She accompanied her refusal from sunrise to sunset and sat by her spinning reciting the prayers and sparrows were her companion of her relaxation.

5. Grandmother and prayer were inseparable. Find instances from the lesson to justify this observation.

- ❖ **Answer:-** Grandmother and prayer were inseparable. She was always found with rosary telling prayers.
- ❖ She used to sing her morning prayer so that he could listen and get it known byheart.
- ❖ When he went to university she accepted her seclusion reciting prayer from morning to evening.

- ❖ Her fingers were busy telling the beads of her rosary when she bid farewell to him to go abroad.
- ❖ When she received him from his return he could hear her reciting prayers.
- ❖ Even at her death bed ignoring protests she kept on telling her beads.

6. “She thumped the sagging skins of the dilapidated drum”. Has the description of the drum anything to do with the grandmother? Explain.

Answer: The description of the drum indicates over joy of grandmother of her grandson’s return from abroad. She did not pray that day. She collected the women of neighbourhood got the old drum and started to sing for several hours. She sang as if the warrior came home.

7. Did the grandmother predict her death? How?

Answer: - Yes, the grandmother predicted her death. When she was ill. The doctor told that it would go but she predicted that her end was near. Only few hours left in the chapter of her life.

8. How did the sparrows react to her earlier in her life and later after death?

Answer:- The sparrows were sweet companions of grandmother she loved them and fed them. When she sat in the veranda they came perched her legs but still she never shooed them away.

When she lay dead wrapped in red shroud thousands of sparrows sat scattered. His mother feeling sorry for the birds threw some crumbs of bread like grandmother. But the sparrows took no notice of the bread, finally they flew away without touching any crumb.

9. What picture of grandmother do you get from the lesson?

Answer: The grandmother was a very active women till her death. She took care of the author and brought him up well in the city. She was highly religious and devotional who always had prayer on her lips. She loved birds and animals and nourished them too. The author had a deep imprint of her cherished moments through the lesson.

TIGER

~Keki N Daruwalla

I. Answer the following:-

1. What does the phrase “burning bright” means?

ANSWER:- The tiger is a graceful animal. Its appearance and eyes were grand. The phrase burning bright refers to the bright eyes of a tiger which seems to be burning.

2. What is not burning bright?

ANSWER:- The tiger is not burning bright.

3. What is the “plight” referred in the poem.

ANSWER:- The pathetic plight of a tiger has been referred in the poem. The number of tigers in the jungle are dying. They are becoming extinct because of its discrimination poaching or killing.

4. According to the poet, what are we not able to understand.

ANSWER:- According to the poet we are unable to understand the plight of tiger and we are not able to understand the consequence and its effect in ecological balance .

5. How the tiger in the forest according to the poet?

ANSWER:- According to the poet once upon a time the tiger was pride of jungle and one of the most beautiful and important habitats of the forest. The jungle trees top flew up birds and other animals disappeared. Monkey screamed at the roar of the tigers.

6. Where is the gecko hunting?

ANSWER:- Gecko is hunting on his ear when tiger is lying dead after being killed and even its hunting insect on the wall hiding behind skin.

7. How did the tiger rule the forest?

ANSWER:- The tiger is the national animal of our country ruled forests as the king when he roared the jungles used to tremble , birds flew away from the trees and monkeys screamed.

II. Answer the following:-

1. “ Their souls were sick killing tigers”

A) Whose souls were sick?

Answer:- Human beings soul were sick.

b) Why are their souls described as sick?

Answer:- Their souls were described as sick because they were bad and killed tigers.

C) Why were the tigers killed?

Answer:- The tigers were killed because they thought their bones would bring power to some sickly man.

2. “Once jungles trembled at his room”.

A) At whose roar did the jungle tremble?

Answer:- The jungle trembled at the tigers roar.

B) Why do they no longer tremble.

Answer:-They no longer trembled because their number is decreasing day to day.

C) Who is responsible for the tiger’s fate?

Answer:- We, human beings are responsible for the tigers fate.

A QUESTION OF SPACE

-Neera Kashyap

I. Answer the following:

1. Vikrant's mother was harping on the importance of the year what was she anxious about Vikrant?

ANS:-Vikrant's class 11th has started with his mother's continuous harping in a boring way.

She gave importance to get grip on science and math as a foundation year for class 12th. So that he could join good coaching centre for launching the XII board examination and medical entrance exam.

2. Anuj had spun into Vikrant's life like new universe? Why did Vikrant feel so? Who was Anuj?

ANS:-Anuj had spun into Vikrant's life like a new universe as an old friend because he was a person having dynamic ideas to photography on collection of human being and living species of self- improvement. Anuj is a photo- journalist.

3. The identity of Vikrant with Anuj created tension between Vikrant and his parents "How did it happen?"

ANS-Vikrant's parents had watched new interests growing with dismay. His class grades were stopped and he has skipped tuitions and extra school designed for the weekend.

4. Vikrant said "medicines are considered given prestige " Is this thought prejudiced ? Do you agree with this opinion?

ANS:-Yes, this thought is prejudicial we can agree this opinion. Medicine is considered as the oldest among the profession and given prestige but that seemed to be a pressure to Vikrant.

5. What was the reply of Anuj when Vikrant asked him how his suggestions could help him?

ANS:-Anuj replied that it would help him to witness his reaction as if it is happening to someone else .He also asked him to distant himself from his body observation and its reaction. This distance will help him to see first and then control his reaction.

6. Where did Vikrant start his self-observations? What did he observe (Refer to Para 23-25)

ANS:-Vikrant started his self-observation when his father asked him to turn his attention to investigate a coaching centre for his medical entrance test rather than spend time with junkies and irrelevant things. Then Vikrant noticed a strong wave of heat through his weary body making him to leave the room without another word.

7. How did Vikrant's father try to convince him to join tuition for medical entrance?

ANS:-Vikrant's father tried to convince him to join tuition saying tuitions are not just tuitions but they coach for a highly competitive exam even one wrong answer would make all the difference.

8. What are the last two steps of self-observations suggested by Anuj to Vikrant?

ANS:-Anuj firstly suggested to make note of moments of active feeling that comes which could be controlled secondly, expressing an emotion opposite to what he feels, and can be done only if he is agitated.

9. He did this with awareness that it was right thing for him to do "what does the awareness refer to?

ANS:-The "awareness" refers the environment to Vikrant for class X11 at a coaching centre for medical entrance test at the end of the class 11th.

10. The word "space" in the title of the lesson has a significant reference on the title?

ANS:-The word space in the title of this lesson is significant. It refers to the freedom to express one's will and wishes. Here, Vikrant wanted space to spend some time according to his will. He needed lots of freedom to find space to know what is important for his career. Here he felt difficult to cope up with himself and his parents.

III. Explain with reference to the context

1. "Hey! What is up? You look grim?"

ANS:-This sentence is extracted from the prose "A Question of Space" written by Neera Kashyap.

These words are spoken by Anuj while exercising under the blue sky better than air conditioned gym and expressed the above words.

2. "But tell me, how do you react to pressure?"

ANS:- These words are spoken by Vikrant feeling that pressure for doctors children's was worse though medicine was considered as one the noblest profession among all and gives prestige. Then he spoke the above words.

3. "Sure. Why not? Actually, our range of expression is quite limited?"

ANS:-These words are spoken by Anuj to Vikrant. He asked Anuj why couldn't he observe his body when he felt happy or adventurous. Then Anuj said these above words.

4. “If you still have not found out. When do you intend to enroll?”

ANS:-These words are spoken by Vikrant's father to Vikrant. Vikrant's father questioned him whether he found a suitable coaching centre he said no to them his father told the above words

5. You cannot really change anything till things are for change.

ANS:-These words are spoken by Anuj to Vikrant. He did not change with his parents and was discouraged. Then Anuj told the above words.

IV. Answer the following questions

1. Compare and contrast the characters of Vikrant and Anuj? Who could you like to be? Vikrant or Anuj. Justify your answer?

ANS:- Vikrant was the class XI student son of successful doctor who was under pressure. His parents insisted him to study bio, math, physics and chemistry to cope with competitive medical entrance exam for the next year. After being consoled by Anuj he learned to overcome from tensed situations by self-observation. At last he realized what is important for career and enrolled for the classes at a coaching centre.

Where Anuj a photo journalist was a person with dynamic ideas. He turned quickly into a friend of Vikrant and taught him some steps to over -come from the pressure.

2. After Vikrant follow's Anuj's advice we observe a change in his attitude and behavior. Trace the chain of change?

ANS:-After following Anuj's advice he learnt to overcome from the tensed situation by self-observation. At last he realized what is important for his career and enrolled for classes at a coaching centre.

3. What is the role played by Anuj in this lesson? What message does the author convey to the reader through this place?

ANS:-Anuj plays a vital role in the life of Vikrant. He guided Vikrant to put things in the right tracks. Here, the message is given to the children should be provided with space for their interests which has to be understood and guided properly by parents.

A PENCIL STORY

~ Florence Mary Hoatso

I. Answer the following:-

1. Where does the poet see the pencil lying.

A. In the beginning?

ANS:-The poet saw the pencil lying upon the mantle piece to be seen by everyone in the beginning of the poem.

B. At the end of poem?

ANS:-At the end of the poem the pencil is found in the holder.

2. Why is the pencil life described as weary?

ANS: - The pencil life is described as weary because it is handled forty times a day.

3. When according to the poet is the pencil.

ANS:-A) The pencil is glad because it is useful for everybody.

B) It is sad according to the poet when it is bitten at the end.

4. What does the poet mean by wits are rather dull?

ANS:-The poet means by the phrase wits are rather dull that the tip of the pencil is not sharp and its writing will be dull.

5. What makes the poet say that the pencils speech is always dark and that always makes mark? Explain.

Answer: The poets describes the speech of the pencil as dark because the lead from which pencil is made is black. The phrase 'make my mark' has metamorphic meaning in addition to literal meaning. Its meaning is to do something that makes one famous or successful. As pencil serves us tirelessly 'make a mark' refers doing useful work

Rhyming words

Life-Knife

Joint - Point

Things-

Dark – Mark

Kings About

Friend – End

– Out Play –

Older -

Day Ought –

Holder

Short

6. Read lines 5 to 8. Who might be “Tommy” according to the poet? How old would he be?

Answer:- According to the poet ‘Tommy’ might be young boy. He would be very small as the pencil scrawls all sorts of things such as kings and cabbage, submarines and aeroplanes.

7. What makes the poet say that “the pencil’s speech is always dark” and that it always makes its mark? Explain.

Answer:- The poet says that the pencil’s speech is always dark because whatever is marked or written by the pencil can be written by everyone. It makes marks whenever it is handled.

II. Appreciation:-

1. Can the pencil’s journey from the mantle piece to the holder be compare to the journey of life of all human beings?

Answer:- The pencil’s journey from the mantle piece to the holder can be compared to the journey of life of all human beings. The mantle piece where the pencil lies can be compared to a cradle to holder. A brave man supported to do different jobs and take up responsibilities similarly pencil is also, used by the people for different purposes, man has to undergo just many pains and strains just like a pencil. When pencil is sharpened it suggests that there will be a chance to correct our mistakes. Pencil when used to make a mark in the same way our deeds create an image of our own living in this world.

2. Pick out the lines from the poem in which you find examples of personification. **Answer:-** The poem as a whole has been personified by the poet. 1st person narrative form pencil as a person is a narrator. The references are many to be quoted the pencil which is quite inanimate speaks to us and tells that his name is H and B. he is upon the mantelpiece. He leads a weary life. He scrawls and tumbles. He feels the pain when knife handles it and grows shorter.

All Stories are Anansi's

~Herold Courlander.

I. Answer the followings:-

1. Who owned the stories in beginning?

Answer: - In the beginning all tales and stories were owned by Nyame the sky God.

2. Who wanted to own them later?

Answer: - Later Kwaku Anansi, the spider wanted to own them.

3. What was the price to be paid to own all the stories in the world?

Answer:- The price for the stories was too high. The price was three things firstly, Mmoboro, the hornets secondly Onini the great python and thirdly Osebo the leopard.

4. Did Anansi agree to pay the price?

Answer:- Yes, Anansi agreed to pay the price he said that he would bring them.

5. Why did Anansi pour water on himself and over the hornets?

Answer:- Anansi poured water on himself and over the hornets to drip themselves.

6. What did Anansi capture the hornets in?

Answer:- Anansi captured the hornets in the gourd.

7. What dispute did the spider have with his wife?

Answer:- The spider had a dispute with his wife regarding Python. His wife argued that the python was shorter and weaker but he said that it was longer and stronger.

8. What suggestion did Onini give to find out the truth about his length and

strength? Answer:- Onini suggested him to get the pole and measure him to find out the truth.

9. Why did Anansi tie Onini at one end of the pole?

Answer:- Anansi tied Onini at one end of the pole as he stretched at the other end. He did so to measure him properly.

10. Where and why did Anansi dig a pit?

Answer:- Anansi dug a pit in the forest where the leopard was accustomed to walk in order to trap it.

11. Why did Anansi bend a tall tree over a pit?

Answer:- Anansi bent a tall tree towards the ground over the pit because Osebo was trapped in it. He did so to save the leopard from pit.

12. Why did the sky God offer Anansi all the stories?

Answer:- The sky god offered all the stories to Anansi because he offered all the three prices to Nyame which was not achieved by great worriers and chiefs.

13. Who should anyone acknowledge before telling a story?

Answer:- One should acknowledge before telling a story because the story belonged to Anansi from the day Nyame gave the ownership.

II. Answer the followings:-

1. Describe how Anansi captured the hornets for the Sky God.

Answer:- Anansi cut a Gourd from a vine and made a small hole in it. He took a large calabash and filled it with water. He went to the tree where the hornets lived Anansi poured some water on himself and hornets to drip themselves. Then he put the calabash on his head, to protect himself from rain. He called out to the hornets stayed in the rain and told them to enter in the dry gourd and plugged the hole with a ball of grass.

2. Explain how the python got trapped.

Answer:- Anansi and his wife had a discussion on that the python was longer and stronger, shorter and weaker. Onini knew this and was ready to be measured by the pole and tail to the other end. And wrapped the wine all around of the python and finally the python got trapped.

3. What method did the spider Kwaku Anansi adopt to get the leopard demanded as a price for the owner ship of all tales and stories of the world?

Answer:- Anansi dug a pit in the forest to trap the leopard. As the leopard fell into the pit, he bent a tall tree towards the ground. Anansi asked Osebo to tie his tail to the rope and he took his knife and cut the rope, which holds the tree bowing to the ground. The tree then straightened up with a snap pulling Osebo out of the hole.

THE BOLD PEDLAR AND ROBIN HOOD

- FRANCIS J CHILD

II. Answer the following:-

1. How was the pedlar traveling?

ANS:-The bold pedlar put his pack all on his back and walked slowly with heavy steps in an open area of grass land.

2. Who did the pedlar meet on the road?

ANS:-The pedlar met two troublesome men one was bold Robin Hood and the other Little John.

3. What did the pedlar have in his pack?

ANS:-The bold pedlar had suits of the gay green silks and silken bow strings two or three.

4. What did the little John requested the pedlar to stop fighting? **ANS:-**Little John wanted half of what pedlar had in his pack.

5. What did the Pedlar protect his pack?

ANS:- The pedlar claimed there is never a man from fair Nottingham who can ask one half of his pack.

6. How did the pedlar protect his pack?

ANS:-The pedlar protected his pack by defeating little John in a fight with sword.

7. Why did little John requested the pedlar to stop fighting?

ANS:-Little John was exhausted completely and he couldn't fight with him so he requested the pedlar to stop fighting.

8. What challenge did Robin Hood put before little John?

ANS:- Robin Hood very boldly told to little John that he could easily thrash the pedlar as well as little John.

9. Who won the second fight?

ANS: - The pedlar was the winner of the second fight.

10. What was the pedlar identify?

ANS:- The pedlar told him his name was Gamble Gold from gay green woods. He had killed a man in his father's land and was forced to flee from there.

III. Answer the following

1. **Who were Robin Hood and Little John? Why did they attack the pedlar?**

ANS:- Robin Hood and little John were the outlaws, who robbed the rich. They attacked the pedlar to take away his belongings.

2. Describe the struggle between

A) The pedlar and little John, and the outcome?

ANS:-When pedlar asked little John to move him one perch from his standing place to take his pack. Little John drew his sword and fought with him.

B)The pedlar and Robin Hood are the outcome?

ANS:-Robin Hood was so confident of defeating the pedlar. He took his sword and pedlar his pack. They fought severely. The blood flew like streams. At last Robin Hood gave up and asked pedlar to stop.

3. Robin Hood calls the pedlar his cousin. How is the fact revealed?

ANS:- The pedlar after defeating both Robin Hood and little John introduced himself that his name is Gamble gold from gay green woods. He killed a man in his father's land and fled from there after revealing that he was Gamble gold. Robin Hood told that he is his mother's own sister's son.

4. Little John and Robin Hood lose to the pedlar. Yet the battle ends on a happy note. Give reason?

ANS:- Little John and Robin Hood lost to the pedlar. When they knew Pedlar was Robin Hood's own cousin. They forgot differences and made peace with each other.

IV. Answer the following

1. Little John and Robin Hood are the chivalrous men. How do they take their defeat? Was it tried to do so, Why?

ANS :- Little John and Robin Hood were chivalrous men. They were very confident that they can beat anyone. But when pedlar was stronger than them, they gave up and made peace. At the end of the poem Robin Hood called pedlar his cousin to hide his disgrace.

2. If Robin Hood and little John had not shown humanity. How you think the battle would have ended?

ANS:- If Robin Hood and little John had not shown humanity the pedlar might have killed both of them. The poet seems to prove that pedlar is stronger than Robin Hood a legendary character.

3. "The pedlar stands for integrity". Do you agree with this view? Justify your answer?

ANS :-Yes , the pedlar stands for integrity though Robin Hood and little John challenge a fight with him. He forgave them and did not kill them. He accepted peace with them and had a drink with them.

On saying Please

-A.G. Gardiner

I. Answer the followings:

1. Why was the passenger thrown out of the lift?

Answer: The passenger was thrown out of the lift for not saying please. He just said 'Top' instead of saying 'Top please'.

2. What would happen if we were given the liberty to box people's ear?

Answer: If we were given the liberty to box peoples ears our fists would never be idle and the gutters of the city would run with blood all day.

3. What can the law not compel us to do?

Answer: The law doesn't compel us to say 'please'.

4. What according to the author is the difference between physical pain and the pain of the wound caused to one's self-respect?

Answer: According to the author physical pain soon passes away but the pain of wound caused to one's self-respect may poison a whole day.

5. What is the first and the most important requirement of civility?

Answer: The first and the most important requirement of civility is that we should acknowledge a service.

6. What did the "polite conductor" do for the author?

Answer: The polite conductor issued the ticket to the author when he was utterly penniless and couldn't pay his rent.

7. Who had trampled on the author's sensitive toe?

Answer: The polite conductor trampled on the authors toe.

8. The polite conductor:

- a. Left the blind man at the bus exit.
- b. Told Bill to take him across the road
- c. Told Bill, the driver, to wait and took himself, across the road.(ans)
- d. Forced him out of the bus.

9. Why was there a very fine weather on the polite conductor's bus always?

Answer: There was a very fine weather on the polite conductor's bus always because of his civility; His polite address infected his passengers.

10. What, according to the people is the cause for the dampening of the everyday civilities?
Answer: According to the people the war with a chilling effect upon everyday civilities of behaviour that sweetens the general air, is the cause for dampening everyday civilities .
11. Civilities can be got back in our day to day life by:
- Evoking the law.
 - Being more civil.(Ans)
 - Paying rudeness with rudeness.
 - By punishing a civil person.

II. Answer the following:

- Can law enforce civility? How?
Answer: Law can't enforce civilities it can't become the guardian of our private manners. No decalogue could administer a law which governed our social civilities, our speech, moods and manners.
- How does bad temper affect one's life?
Answer: Bad temper affect one's life very badly. It passes from one to another. Bad temper leading to bad manners does more poison than all the crime in the calender.
- Discuss the importance and effect of good manners?
Answer: Good manners are like bad manners that are infectious. If we encounter incivility we are apt to become uncivil. Good manners just like the fine weather cheer up our mood and create a fine atmosphere around us.
- List out the instances in which the polite conductor showed his civil behaviour. Do you approve of his behaviour? Why?
Answer:- Once the author boarded the bus without any money in his pocket. He told honestly the same to the conductor, instead of asking him to get down issued the ticket. A few days after he trampled the author's toe when the author expressed anger and agony. He apologized more politely. If he had a blind man in his bus he not only makes him sit down safely on the pavement. He would call Bill the driver to wait, while he took him across the road safely.
 Yes, I approve of his behaviour who created an atmosphere of good temper and kindness around him. A journey with such people will be a lesson in natural courtesy and good manners.
- How could the lift man take a polite and effective revenge? Suggest a way? **Answer:**
 The lift man would have taken a polite and effective revenge instead of throwing the passenger out of his lift. He would have a more effective revenge if he had treated the gentle man who would not say 'please' with elaborate politeness.

III. Answer the following:

1. It is easy to be civil at all time's period. Do you agree? Why?

Answer:- No, I don't agree with this statement. It's not so easy to be civil at all times while encountering incivility and polite persons will become uncivil losing their patience.

But, we should try out the best to be polite in any circumstances. We should acknowledge a service taken from others. Good manners are like bad manners that are infectious if we are polite we may lose material gain but always will have spiritual victory over others.

2. Suggest some ways of encouraging people to adopt civil behaviour.

Answer: The ways to encourage people to adopt civil behaviour.

- ❖ Acknowledge the service use of 'sorry' 'pardon' 'thanks' 'please' whenever necessary we should give respect to take respect.
- ❖ Helping the needy.
- ❖ Forgiving others mistake.
- ❖ Re – educating the mass.
- ❖ Spreading the message of politeness through books, medias etc.

Geography lesson

- Zulfikar Ghose

I. Answer the following:

1. What did the poet see from the jet?

Answer: - The poet saw a city from great height. As the jet reached higher, he could see the city developed haphazardly in an unplanned manner.

2. The words “haphazard” and “unplanned” are used to describe:

- a. The scale.
- b. The sky.
- c. The jet.
- d. The cities.(Ans)

3. From high above the earth, how the Earth, how did the cities appear to the poet?

Answer: - The cities appeared haphazardly, unplanned and without any style to the poet from high above the Earth.

4. From a higher altitude what lesson could the poet learn about the cities?

Answer: - From a higher altitude, the poet learnt that the country had cities where rivers ran and valleys were populated. He learnt the logic of geography that man was attracted by land and water.

5. According to the poet what was in greater proportion on earth?

Answer: - According to the poet water is in great proportion on Earth.

6. According to the poet, what do men on Earth do?

Answer: - According to the poet, men on Earth found causes to hate each other. They built walls and barriers developed hatred and enmity and killed each other.

II. Answer the following: -

1. “From above, the city looked haphazard and unplanned”. Why do you think the city looked so?

Answer: - From above, the city looked haphazard and unplanned because it seemed to be inevitable to build walls. Each one built according to their own will. People didn't follow proper plan or style while building cities.

2. Geographically what is the importance of rivers and valleys? Explain their importance with reference to the second stanza of the poem?

Answer: - Rivers and valleys are very important for men. Most of the civilization is on the banks of rivers. Therefore, the poet saw much development in the cities and the valleys that are densely populated.

3. The last stanza shows the degradation of human nature. Do you agree with this view? Justify your answer.

Answer: - The last stanza shows the degradation of human nature, I agree with this view. It is very true with the progress of science and technology; man is making much progress but not degrading human. He has found causes to hate each other building barriers and even killing.

III. Answer the following: -

1. The picture of the earth zooms out in the poet's mind, and against that background we see human nature. Bring out the contrast between the Earth and human nature.

Answer: - The picture of the Earth that zooms out in the poet's mind is one huge land round in shape and has more water than land.

But quite contrast to that men are divided in the name of caste, creed, colour, etc. though they are living on the same planet they have drawn boundaries and developed hatred towards each other and try to kill each other.

THE STORY TELLER

- Saki (H H Munro)

Answer the following:

1. Who were the occupants of the carriage?

ANS: The occupants of the carriage was a small girl and a smaller girl, small boy their aunt and a bachelor.

2. What questions haunted Cyril when he saw sheep in the field?

ANS: The questions which haunted Cyril was that “why are the sheep being driven out of that fields.

3. What made the aunt decide that the bachelor was a hard and unsympathetic man?

ANS: The children were behaving in a restless manner. The frown on the bachelor’s face turned to a scowl. This made her decide that the bachelor was a hard and unsympathetic man.

4. Who saved the little girl in the aunt’s story?

ANS: A number of rustics who adventured her moral character saved the little girl in the aunts story.

5. Name the little girl in the bachelor’s story?

ANS: Bertha is the little girl’s name in the bachelor’s story.

6. What remark of the bachelor’s story created a wave of reaction in favour of the story?

ANS: The word horrible in connection with goodness was the remark of the bachelor’s story which created a wave of reaction in favour of the story.

7. How did the prince of the country come to know about Bertha?

ANS: Prince of the country came to know about Bertha that everybody in the country talked about her goodness.

8. How did the prince of the country honour Bertha?

ANS: Prince of the country honoured Bertha for her goodness by allowing her to walk in his park once in a week which was just outside the town.

9. Why was it a great honour for Bertha being allowed into the prince’s park?

ANS: It was a great honour for Bertha being allowed into the prince’s park because no children were ever allowed in it except her.

10. When did Bertha begin to wish that she had never been allowed in to the park?

ANS: Bertha began to wish that she had never been allowed in to the park when the wolf came sniffing the branches.

11. The wolf located Bertha while she was hiding in the bushes by

- a) Sniffing around
 - b) The clinking sound of the medals(Ans)
 - c) Her spotlessly white and clean pinafore
- ANS: b. The clinking sound of the medals.**

12. What was aunt's reaction to the bachelor's story?

ANS: The aunt had a different opinion that it was the most improper story to be told to young children which charged the effect of years of careful things.

II. Answer the following in brief:

1. How did the bachelor describe.

- a) The pigs in the park

ANS: The bachelor describing the pigs said that there were lots of little pigs running all over the place, describing their colour he added that some pigs were with white faces, with white black spots others black all over gray with white patches and some were white all over.

- b) The fish in the park?

ANS: The fishes in the park were filled with gold, blue and green fish in them.

- c) The wolf in the park?

ANS: An enormous wolf came prowling into the park. It was mud colour all over with a black tongue and pale grey eyes that glammed with unspeakable ferocity.

2. What qualities of Bertha earned her the three medals?

ANS: Bertha earned several medals for goodness. She earned a medal for obedience another medal for punctuality and third for good behavior.

3. Give reasons for:

- a. The absence of sheep in the prince's park

ANS: There were no sheep in the park because the prince's mother had a dream that her son would either be killed by a sheep or by a clock falling on him for this reason the prince never kept a sheep in the park or a clock in his palace.

- b. The absence of flowers in the prince's park.

ANS: There were absolutely no flowers in the park because the pigs had eaten them all.

- c. Bertha feeling sorry for the absence of flowers in the prince's park.

ANS: Bertha had promised her aunt with tears in her eyes that she would not pick any of

the flowers in the prince's park and she felt sorry to find that there were no flowers in the park.

4. What are the two different thoughts of Bertha on her being extraordinarily good, when she was in the prince's park?

ANS: Bertha first walked up and down in the park and enjoyed herself immensely. She felt that if she was not so extraordinarily good she would not have been allowed to come into the beautiful park but her feeling changed when the wolf came prowling towards her she began to wish that she had been safe in the town.

III. Answer the following in 8 to 10 sentences:

1. How did the medals earn respect for Bertha as well as cause her death?

ANS: Bertha's medals for her goodness brought respect as well as death to her as she won several medals. She wore them always pinning them on to her dress. Everybody knew that she was extraordinary good and talked about her. The prince of the country got to hear about her. He honoured her allowing to walk in his park once in a week. One day while she was walking in the park enjoying its beauty a hungry wolf saw her and began to chase her. Anyhow Bertha ran for life and hide behind myrtle bushes. The medals clinking against each other as Bertha was trembling the wolf heard the clinking and detected her in the bush and dragged her out and devoured her.

2. The aunt terms the bachelor's story as the improper one do you agree with her? Give reason?

ANS: No, I do not agree with the aunty's terms it's very difficult to engage the children in the journey. But the bachelor tried to hold the children with his story though his story did not teach morality to children he was successful in keeping them quite for more than ten minutes. He answered to all their queries patiently. He was better than aunt in pacifying restless children.

3. What elements in the bachelor's story appealed to the children?

ANS: First of all the bachelor described Bertha that she was horribly good. The word horrible in connection with goodness and a naval way and created a wave of reaction in favour to the story. His description of sheep, pig, and fish in park thrilled them. They liked story very much it was the most beautiful story they ever heard.

4. How would the story have ended if Bertha had not pinned the medals on her pinafore? **ANS:** The story would have ended differently. If Bertha had not pinned her medals on a pinafore. The people and the king would have not come to know about her goodness she would have not allowed to walk in the park and chased by the hungry wolf. She would have been alive.

ETHICS

- Linda Pastan

I. Answer the following:-

1. What did question did the teacher ask everytime?

ANS: The teacher used to ask the question everytime, i f there were fire in the museum what would the students save a Rembrandt painting or an old woman who had not many years left to live.

2. Were the children able to answer the question correctly?

ANS: No, the children found it difficult to answer the question correctly

3. The children responded to the question

1. By debating on the question enthusiastically.
2. Half –heartedly.(Ans)
3. By giving different answers at different times.

4. Where is the speaker working when the speaker narrates this incident?

ANS: The speaker seems to be working in the museum when she narrated the incident.

5. What had the speaker realized after many years?

ANS: The speaker had realized after many years that the women, the paintings and the seasons are almost one and all beyond the limits of children to be saved.

II. Answer the following in brief:

1. Pick out the expressions in the poem that indicates that the questions did not interest the children. ANS: We'd opt one year for art and always half- heartedly; this line indicates that the question did not interest the children.

2. The children were “restless on hard chairs” because

- a) They were eager to answer the question immediately.
- b) They were unable to understand the ethics dilemma.
- c) The hardness o the chair affected their calmness.

ANS: b. They were unable to understand the ethics dilemma.

3. The images “half – heartedly” and “half – imagined” could mean

- a) The children perceived the idea of ethical responsibility very faintly.
- b) The ethical dilemma was beyond their understanding and experience(Ans).
- c) Children could not understand the gravity of the question.

An Astrologer's Day

~ R K Narayan

C1. Answer the following questions:

1. What articles did the astrologer carry?

Ans. The astrologer carried a dozen cowrie shells, a square piece of cloth with obscure mystic charts on it, a notebook and a bundle of Palmyra writing.

2. What were the different names given by the nuts vendor for his business?

Ans. The different names given by the nuts vendor for his business were 'Bombay Ice-Cream', 'Delhi Almond' and 'Raja's Delicacy.'

3. What kind of life would the astrologer have in his own village?

Ans. The Astrologer would have carried on the work of his for fathers namely tilling the land, living, marrying and ripening in his corn field and ancestral home.

4. How much did the astrologer charge for his new

clients? **Ans.** The astrologer charged three paise per question for his clients.

5. Why did the Astrologer remain silent for at least ten minutes, initially?

Ans. The astrologer used to remain silent for at least ten minutes, initially, listened to his clients and gathered enough stuff for a dozen answers and advices.

6. What was the signal for the astrologer to bundle up?

Ans. The nuts vendor blew out his flare and rose to go home. This was a sign for the astrologer to go home.

7. How much did the astrologer demand from his new client to answer his question?

Ans. The astrologer demanded five rupees from his new client to answer his question.

8. What did the astrologer ask Guru Nayak to do?

Ans. The astrologer gave Guru Nayak a pinch of ash to rub on his forehead, and asked him to go back home and never travel southwards again.

C2. Answer the following:

1. Why did the astrologer have no light of his own for his business?

Ans. The astrologer transacted his business by the light of a flare which crackled and smoked above the groundnut heap nearby. This suited the astrologer for a simple reason that he had not in the least intended to be an astrologer.

2. Why did the astrologer close his business when the nuts vendor blew out his flare?

Ans. The astrologer closed his business when the nuts vendor blew out his flare as it left him in complete darkness.

3. How efficient was the astrologer in his business?

Ans. Despite the fact that the astrologer had no knowledge in astrology, he was efficient in his business. He had a working analysis of mankind's trouble, marriage, money and the tangles of humanity. Long practice had sharpened his perception; he would understand and collect the needed information within five to ten minutes.

4. "When shall I get him?"

- a) Who was this question asked to?

Ans. This question was asked to the astrologer.

- b) Who does "I" refer to? **Ans.** "I" refers to Guru Nayak.

- c) Why does the speaker want to get him?

Ans. The speaker wanted to take revenge as he was pushed into the well and left dead.

5. "You look worried. What's wrong?"

- a) Who is the speaker?

Ans. The astrologer's wife is the speaker.

- b) Whom does "you" refer to?

Ans. "You" refers to the astrologer.

- c) Why was he worried?

Ans. He was worried because he met a man named Guru Nayak whom he had tried to kill long

back in the village.

C3. Answer the following:

1. Why did the astrologer run away from his village?

Ans. The astrologer ran away from his village because of a false impression. The astrologer as a youngster drank, gambled and quarrelled with other people. Once under the influence of alcohol he fought with a man, stabbed him and pushed him into a well, he thought that he was dead and ran away to escape punishment.

2. In the story, do you think the astrologer should be punished for his crime?

Ans. The crime committed by the astrologer was grave. Even though he ran away, he was guilty of the act. As he was guilty and running away from the punishment was a punishment by itself, there is no further punishment needed.

3. Describe how the astrologer felt at the end of the story.

Ans. The astrologer was very guilty of his act. So, when he came to know that the man was not dead, he felt a great load lifted from him. He thought he had the blood of a man in his hands for many years. When he knew it wasn't so, he felt very relieved and light-hearted.

4. Describe the role of fate and chance in the story.

Ans. The story shows that our life changes according to our fate. None of us can escape what we are destined for. A villager became an astrologer because of his fate and fate brought the enemies face-to-face. The story also shows that everything is not dependent on fate.

The way the astrologer deals with his enemy shows that he who was irresponsible as a youngster has become responsible and matured. This shows that, though we are bound to our destiny we can control it to some extent with self-control.

5. Does the story make you think that all the astrologers are false?

Ans.

6. How has R K Narayan portrayed the attractive appearance of the astrologer?

Ans. R K Narayan has portrayed the appearance of the astrologer quite attractively. His forehead was resplendent with sacred ash and vermilion and his eyes sparkled with a sharp, abnormal gleam. He wore a saffron turban round his head, this colour scheme never failed to attract the customers.

GOOD BYE PARTY FOR MISS PUSHPA T.S

-Nissim Ezekiel

I. Answer the following:

1. **What do you think is the “occasion” for the poem?**
ANS: The occasion for the poem is a farewell party to Miss Pushpa T.S who is departing to improve her prospects.
2. **What impression do you get about Miss Pushpa after reading the poem? Or what kind of a person do you think Miss Pushpa T.S is?**
ANS: Miss Pushpa is the most popular lady with good spirit she always says yes to everyone. Her external and internal sweetness is felt by all men and women.
3. **Write in 2 or 3 sentences about Miss Pushpa’s family?**
ANS: Miss Pushpa is coming from an affluent family whose father was a renowned advocate in Surat.
4. **Pick out the lines from the poem which reveal or indicate that Miss Pushpa was liked by all.**
ANS: The lines from the poem which reveal that Pushpa is liked by all. She is the most popular lady with men and ladies also.
5. **What traits of Miss Pushpa does the poet appreciate?**
ANS: The poet appreciates the good spirit of Miss Pushpa who always said yes to everyone and never say no, she is ready to do anything.
6. **How would you consider the poem-A farewell address or a welcome speech? Justify your answer.**
ANS: The poet seems to bid farewell address to Miss Pushpa. It is a speech given by her friend in the party.
7. **There are many expressions in the poem which are typically Indian identify these expressions? ANS: The expressions which are typically Indian are:**
 - i. **Smiling and smiling.**
 - ii. **I am not remembering now.**
 - iii. **His wife was cooking nicely.**
 - iv. **With men also and ladies also.**
8. **Would you consider those poems as making a gentle fun of people who cannot speak English properly? Justify your answer.**
ANS: Yes, this poem is considered as the gentle fun of the people who cannot speak English properly. The word just signifies the ignorance of English words creating fun from the

speaker's wrong use of

tense form is repeated in the speech whatever “I” or anybody is asking she is saying yes.

II. RTC:

1. **Surat? Ah, yes once only I stayed in Surat.**

a) **Who does “I” refer to here?**

ANS: ‘I’ here refers to the speaker.

b) **Why is the reference to Surat here?**

ANS: The reference of Surat is made here because Miss Pushpa’s father was renowned advocate in Surat.

c) **It this remark opt in the context?**

ANS: This remark is not opt in the context.

2. **“just now only I will do it”**

a. **Who does I refer here?**

ANS: “I” refer that Miss Pushpa happily accepted to do anything whenever she was asked to do the work.

b. **What does “It” mean here?**

ANS: It means that the work is allotted to her is completed by her happily.

c. **Who “I” does refer to here? ANS: It refers to Miss Pushpa.**

A DREAM OF FLIGHT

~ K S Raman

I. Answer the following:

1. Which book took the author into “a dream of flight”?

Ans. The book “The Invention of the Aeroplane 1799-1909’ written by Charles H. Gibbs Smith took the author into a dream of flight.

2. When did the author find the book?

Ans. The author found the book in an old book shop just two days ago.

3. What did the book explain?

Ans. The book explained man’s never-ending longing and hope of flying that led to innumerable trials, most of which ended as disasters and experiments arising from inventions used for flight before the advent of aeroplanes.

4. How was the bird man dressed to fly?

Ans. The bird man tried to resemble a bird. He had tied himself with bat-like wings made from wood and cloth, covered with bird’s feathers.

5. What happened to the bird man when he jumped from the tower?

Ans. A tragedy took place when the bird man jumped from the tower. Instead of flying free in the sky like a bird, he tumbled down inverted and totally out of control and crashed to the ground and died.

6. Who were the first aerial passengers?

Ans. The first aerial passengers were a sheep, a hen and a duck.

II. Answer the following:

1. Describe the balloon in which the first aerial passengers flew.

Ans. The balloon in which the first aerial passengers flew was a huge fabric envelope which resembled a globe in its shape. It was decorated with colourful motifs with an open bottom. There was fire arranged below so that the hot air produced by the flames filled the globe.

Once the sphere was thus filled, the ropes which held it down were to be cut off simultaneously by four people who had hitherto held it down. The spherical balloon would then fly upwards and drift across the sky. In the basket of such a balloon were placed a sheep, a hen and a duck – the first aerial passengers.

2. How did Otto Lilienthal make an attempt to fly?

Ans. Otto Lilienthal lifts a strange craft built from wood and fabric and brings it out of a big hill comprising of two six metre long bat like wings on top of one another with a vertical and horizontal surface behind the craft has a ring shaped frame between the wings. Otto steps inside the frame and with his arms supporting the ring runs forward. Within a few steps, Lilienthal's craft starts floating in the air. Hanging beneath, Lilienthal glided for a long distance and touched down at the bottom of the hill.

3. How has the author described Orville Wright's flight into the air?

Ans. In 1903, the Wright brothers made a two-winged machine which stood on a long wooden rafter. Orville Wright lies prone in the middle over the bottom wing. A small internal combustion engine by his side turns a pair of two-bladed paddle wheels through long bicycle chains.

As the engine started working, Wilbur Wright freed the rope holding the machine and it surged forward. Moving at about 12 miles per hour, it suddenly lifted up and started flying in the air. This turned out to be the prototype for all aeroplane models to follow.

III. Answer in brief:

1. 'Man had at last devised a contraption with which he could launch himself from a hill and glide down to the ground.'

a) Who had made this contraption?

Ans. Sir George Cayley had made this contraption.

b) How did it work?

Ans. Sir George Cayley put his carriage chauffeur inside and gave a big push. The vehicle started rolling on its wheel and rushed towards the valley below. But when it gathered speed it started floating in the air. It touched down on the other side of the valley.

2. List out the persons from the lesson who made brave attempts to fly.

- In 1496 A.D., many men attempted to fly by tying wings on their cloth. But they could not succeed. Unfortunately, these adventures met with a tragic end.
- In 1783 A.D., three animals – a sheep, a hen and a duck were sent in a hot air balloon in France.
- In 1853 A.D., Sir George Cayley built a contraption which floated for some time before landing down.
- In 1891 A.D., Otto Lilienthal built a glider successfully.

- **In 1903 A.D., The Wright brothers built a machine which flew for a while.**
- **Thus, finally man was successful in his attempts to fly.**

3. What does the lesson inspire you to do?

Ans. The lesson 'A Dream of Flight' inspires us to hitch our wagons to a star that is, set high goals. It shows that nothing is impossible if we dream till our dreams turn themselves into thoughts and thoughts into action.

PHOTOGRPH:-

- Shirley Toulson

I. Answer the following

1. How many people are there in photograph?

ANS:- The people in the photograph are poet's mother and the two cousins.

2. How is the poet to the people in the photograph?

ANS:-The poet is related to the people in the photograph as the poet's mother& cousins Betty and Dolly.

3. Who was taking the snapshot?

ANS:- The uncle of the poet's mother undertook the snapshot.

4. Is the mother described in the photo alive?

ANS:- No, the mother described in the photograph is dead.

5. Which aspect of the mother does the poet like very much?

ANS:-The mother's smiling face and her laughter was the aspect that the poet liked very much.

II. Answer the following

1. Why does the writer say "And of this circumstance There is nothing to say at all Its silence silences?"

ANS:-The circumstance is the situation where the poet's mother is dead. There is nothing to say and everything is silent except memories and photograph and thinking of it one has to know how to express their feeling.

2. Does the poet notice any change in the mother after the poet was born? What do you think could have made the change in mother's face?

ANS:- Some years later as the poet was born his mother looked at snapshot and laughed. She realized the way her cousin's were dressed up for the beach. The sea holiday washes the past time where she felt happy and thought that time would never return.

3. Why the feet are described "transient felt"?

ANS:-The feet are described transient because the mother's life was too short. The sea which had the feet did not change but people in photograph attained change. Their life was temporary and the nature is everlasting.

The Goat and The Stars.

- H.E. Bates

I. Answer the following: -

1. What makes the boy looks funny?

Answer: - The young boy looked funny as he was young and had a determined smile on his thin lips. His large brown trousers gave him a curious look of being shorn off with sheep shears.

2. Where are goats kept?

Answer: - The goats are kept in small sty.

3. What first made the man and his wife become aware of the smell of the goat kid and the boy?

Answer: - The clergyman spoke of the grace of giving and represented the people who bought frankincense and myrrh. As he spoke the man in front of the boy turned to his wife both sniffed like dogs and saw the boy with goat in his arm.

4. Why was the boy troubled by the absence of snow on the ground?

Answer: - The boy for a long time believed that at Christmas there must be snow on the ground and bells ringing and moving stars. Since they were not present the boy was troubled.

5. Explain the message written on the notice board.

Answer: - The notice 'This means you' was seemed large angry letters to the boy. The notice made him uneasy and troubled him as the Christmas was near, the notice seemed to hit the face.

It singled him out from the rest of the world since the notice seemed to him as it was watching him. He decided to give the goat kid to the church. Finally, man said that the goat was no use to anybody. The boy walked down without looking at the notice, which pointed him always. At the end he was clear that the notice did not mean him at all.

EARTHQUAKE

- M.S. Mahadevan

I. Answer the following:

1. How long did the earthquake last?

ANS: The Earthquake lasted less than five minutes. The effect was so severe that six hundred and two villages were destroyed and centuries old buildings were crashed. Villages were reduced to rubble and snuffed out hundreds of lives.

2. Describe the boy's family.

ANS: The boy's name was Brij. He was seventeen years old boy. His brother Nilu was ten years. Bhuli his two years sister was the baby of the family. His grandmother lived with them. He lost his father due to some illness, his mother took care of everyone.

3. How did the army help the people?

ANS: The soldier's cleared the debris with spades and crow bars. They bought a few lit petromax lamps and the feverish soldiers carefully cleared the hallow and saved a child, who was under the debris for hundred and sixteen hours.

4. Did Brij return to Panipat? Why?

ANS: Yes, Brij returned to Panipat. He felt weight because he never thanked the officer who saved his sister's life. Hoping to see the soldier again he returned to Panipat.

5. How could Brij start his own tea shop? Where was it?

ANS: Brij worked at the Dhaba near Panipat. He was a waiter who kept for getting to present bills to customer. As soon as he left the job the owner was quite relieved. Finally Brij opened a shop of his own at Badrinath and he was at peace with his humble road Side-teashop.

BALAI

- Rabindranath Tagore

I. Answer the following questions:

1. How is Balai related to the writer?

Ans: Balai is related to the writer Rabindranath Tagore as his nephew.

2. What kind of a boy was Balai?

Ans: Balai was fond of plants and trees. When the layer of dark clouds gathered the sky, his entire soul seemed to fill with moist winds carrying aroma of forest during rain. As it rained heavily his whole body listened to its sounds. As mango trees blossoms joy awoke in his blood stream. He liked to talk to himself.

3. What traits in Balai do you admire the most?

Ans: The traits we admire the most in Balai

are:

Balai was a boy who gazed all the time with his wide eyes. He did not speak much. His heart was filled with joy as he saw the hills and green grasses. He rolled on the grass quite often and laughed uncontrollably when the grass tickled his neck. He had a strange experience of seeing people inside the huge trees. As mango trees blossomed joy awoke in his blood stream. He liked to talk to himself.

4. Why didn't Balai want the grass cutter to cut the plants?

Ans: Balai didn't want the grass cutter to cut the plants because he had watched countless wonders in the grass small creepers, homeless violet and yellow flowers, tiny in size here and there a night shade. Whose blue flowers have a little golden dot as the center medicinal plants near the fence, a Kalmegh here an antanul there, neem seeds left by birds, sprouting into plants spreading beautiful leaves.

5. What do you think is the message in the story?

Ans: The story speaks about Balai who was fascinated by the nature specially plants and trees. This story gives a message that one should preserve nature. The author informs the leaders to preserve nature and also man has the power to control or destroy other forms of life in the world.

