



CHAP 1 THE PORTRAIT OF A LADY

By Khushwant Singh

Words- Meanings

Portrait = True picture

Mantelpiece = Shelf above a fireplace

Hobbled = Walked with difficulty

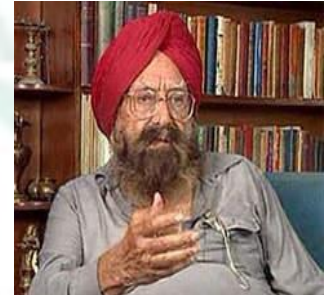
Stoop = Bent body due to old age

Puckered = Wrinkled

Serenity = Calm and peaceful

Lewd = Indecent

Pallor = Pale colouring of the face



❖ Answer the following questions in 30-40 words :

a) What stories of grandmother did the author treat as fables of the prophets? Why?

Ans : The author treated the stories of grandmother's youth and beauty as fables as he had always seen her old and he found it hard to accept that she could once be pretty and young.

b) What is the significance of sparrows in grandmothers life ?

Ans : When grandmother shifted to the city, she spent half an hour every day feeding the sparrows. The birds became friendly with her and came every day in the varandah of her house. It was the happiest hour of the day. When she died after short illness , thousands of sparrows flew in the varandah and sat near her body. They were quiet and not chirping . They even ignored the bread crumbs given by author's mother. In this way they expressed their bonding with the grand mother.

c) Grand mother never complained about anything. Her patience was beyond any measure. Mention any two instances.

Ans: Two instances that show the grandmother's patience are:

i) when she fed the sparrows the birds sat on her head but she never shoed them away

ii) She did not become upset when the author went abroad for higher education. She accepted the decision in a calm and composed manner.

❖ Answer the following questions in 100-120 words :

a) Draw a character sketch of Khushwant Singh's grandmother as portrayed by him in the lesson 'The Portrait of a Lady'.

Ans: The narrator's grandmother was a true picture of love, affection and care . She had all those virtues which grandmother's generally have for their grandsons. She was highly religious but a conservative lady.

The grandmother presented a picture of peace and contentment. Her spotless white dress and her silver white hair gave her spiritual beauty. The grandmother was not physically very attractive. She had deep love and affection for her grandson. She got him ready for the school and came back home with him.

She was a very religious lady. She was always telling the beads of her rosary. She had compassion even for animals and birds. She fed the village dogs. She took to feeding the sparrows in the city. But the grandmother was a conservative lady. She didn't like the English language and Science. She hated music. She associated music prostitutes and beggars.

b) Suppose you are Khushwant Singh . Your grandmother dies just after your returning from abroad. Write a letter to your friend describing him the end of the great lady. Don't forget to include the strange behaviour of the sparrows at her death.

Ans:

**25, Ismile Road,
Jaipur**

5th July 20xx

Dear Romil,

You will be grieved to know that the grand old lady of our family is no more in this world. She took her last breath on last Sunday. She died just three days after I returned from Germany. Actually she had overstrained herself. She gathered all the ladies of the neighbourhood in the evening on the day of my arrival. She continued thumping an old drum singing the home coming of the heroes. That day she was so much excited that she forgot even to pray. The next morning she fell ill. She knew that her end was near. She lay peacefully in bed. She was praying and telling her beads. Her lips stopped and rosary fell from her lifeless hands. She was dead. So ended the life history of a great noble soul.

A strange thing happened. Hundreds of sparrows sat scattered over the floor near her dead body. There was no chirruping. Grandmother used to feed them every day in the afternoon. My mother broke some bread into crumbs. She threw the crumbs to them. They took no notice of the bread. The moment the corpse was carried out, the sparrows flew away quietly.

Yours sincerely
Khushwant Singh

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yiAEID3Z7wE>

**L. 2 “We’re not Afraid to Die: If We can All Be Together” –
Gordon Cook & Alan East**



❖ **Word meanings:**

- 1) Voyage – journey over the sea**
- 2) Honing – improving**
- 3) Tackle – handle**
- 4) Atrocious – very pleasant**
- 5) Debris – broken pieces of material**
- 6) Mayday calls – distress message sent over the radio**
- 7) Sextant – instrument measuring angles and distances**

❖ **Answer the following questions in 30-40 words:**

- a) **What preparation did the author and his wife make for their round-the-world sea voyage?**
 - The narrator planned to go on a round-the-world sea voyage on the same pattern as Captain James Cook had done 200 years earlier. For the past 16 years, he and his wife had spent all their leisure time developing and improving their skills with work related to travel on the sea. They had tested their boat ‘Wavewalker’ in the roughest weather also.
- b) **How did the Suzanne try to lighten the gloomy atmosphere?**
 - Wavewalker was hit by a huge wave. As a consequence Suzanne got injury on her forehead. Yet she was not sacred. She prepared a funny card showing caricatures of her loving and hard working parents. She just wanted to lighten the gloomy atmosphere.
- c) **Explain the title, “We are not afraid to die-if we can all be together”. What lesson does it teach?**
 - The title means that if they all can be together, they are never afraid to die. The narrator and his party face the worst times of their life. But they face it boldly and come out successfully. The lesson is clear : we must face the odds of life with courage and they won’t harm us.

❖ **Answer the following questions in 100-120 words:**

- a) **Describe the boat ‘Wavewalker’ which set sail from Plymouth, England in July 1976 for going round the world.**
 - The narrator had dreamt of sailing in the wake of Captain James Cook, the famous explorer. 200 years earlier. Captain Cook had made the round-the-world voyage. The

narrator wanted to duplicate the voyage of Captain James Cook. For this purpose he had made his boat Wavewalker. It was a 23 meter, 30 ton wooden hulled beauty, which was professionally built. They had spent months fitting it out and testing it in the roughest weather. As regards the seafaring skills the narrator had spent all his leisure time for the past 16 years in knowing those skills. So he set sail in July 1976 with his wife Mary, son Jonathan, 6 and daughter Suzanne, 7 in his Wavewalker.

b) Everyone on board did contribute to save Wavewalker. Justify.

- Coming out of a challenging assignment can be done only if every member of team works for his or her best cause. Same happened when Wavewalker which was struck hard with a huge wave in the Southern Indian Ocean. The narrator was thrown out by giant wave but he managed to get back to Wavewalker and started rescue work. While he was trying to block water from pouring in. Mary, his wife took over to wheel and steered the ship bravely without getting panicked about safety of her children. Larry Vigil and Herbert Seigler worked hard and continued pumping out water till all leaking gaps were plugged, repaired or covered. Little Jonathan and Suzanne who were on upper bank also got injured but they did not create any panic rather they bore isolation and pain in such a manner that their parents and other two sailors had no problem in and best efforts of all on board to save the Wavewalker.

PHOTOGRAPH

- Shirley Toulson



Word Meanings

Paddling = Walking through shallow water in bare feet

Transient = Temporary lasting only for a short time

Wry = Disgusted

Silences = Make someone unable to speak

1. Read the stanzas given and then answer the following questions briefly:

The cardboard shows me how it was
When the two girl cousins went paddling.
Each one holding one of my mother's hands
And she the big girl – some twelve years or so.

a) What does the word 'cardboard' suggest?

Ans. The cardboard suggest a photograph.

b) Why were the two cousins holding on to poet's mother's hand?

Ans. The two cousins were holding on to the poet's hand because she was the oldest among them.

c) What feelings are aroused in these lines?

Ans. Feelings of fun and happiness are aroused in these lines. Also, the poet seems most logic when she sees the picture.

2. Read the stanzas given and then answer the following questions briefly:

**“Now she has been dead nearly as many years
As that girl lived. And of this circumstance
There is nothing to say at all
Its silence silences.”**

a) Who does 'she' refer to?

Ans. She refers to the poetess Shirley Toulson's mother.

b) Explain “Its silence silences.”

Ans. It means that the photograph is still and silent and so is the poetess as her mother is no more in the world. The memory of her mother's death silences her as well.

c) What is mental state of the poet here?

Ans. The poet is very sad here as she's missing her mother who is no more in the world.

Q II Answer the following questions in 30-40 words:

1) What do you learn about the poetess' mother from 'A Photograph'?

Ans. The poetess's mother was a big girl at the age of twelve. She had a sweet face and enjoyed swimming as well as wading in sea water with her cousins. Years later she laughed at the clothes they had put on for the sea holiday.

2) "And of this circumstance thus nothing to say at all. Its silence silences" says the poetess's in 'A Photograph. What is she referring to?

Ans. 'The circumstance' refers to the situation that was captured in the photo years before when the poetess' mother stood for a photograph.

3) Explain "terribly transient feet"?

Ans. The sea has not changed much with the passage of time. It is in sharp contrast to short, transient and temporary life and existence of human beings.

Q III Answer the following questions in 100-150 words:

1) What has the camera captured? What has not changed over the years? Does that suggest something to you?

Ans. The camera had captured the natural smile and sweet face of the poetess's mother with her two cousins each one holding her hand. The sea has not changed over the years. It suggests that nature and its

objects do not undergo a change. They remain the same over the years. It also suggests that with the passing of time man dies, but nature remains unchanged.

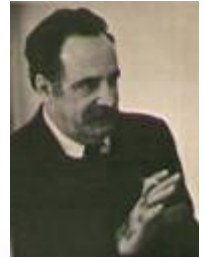
2) “ Its silences “, writes Shirley Toulson. The loss of her mother has silenced her. Do you think that this attitude of the poet is the right attitude to live life ? Why/ why not?

Ans: There is no doubt that Shirley Toulson has given a very touching tribute to her mother by remembering her through her verses. It is apparent that she is very much nostalgic and is grieving at the loss of her mother. Though she says that over the years she has adjusted to her mother’s absence, but circumstances have surely filled her with silence and a deep void.

We cannot deny that it hurts very much to lose someone, but the attitude shown by the poet at the end is not right way to live your life . Life will keep going on even if we stop to lament our loss. Loss is universal. It is the law of nature. We cannot let ourselves get depressed just because of this. It is also understandable that we will grieve. However grieving to the point of hampering the normal functioning of our lives is not acceptable.

THE SUMMER OF THE BEAUTIFUL WHITE HORSE

- William Saroyan



Word meanings

Hall marks = Typical characteristics

Craze = Insane

Poverty –stricken = Suffering from extreme poverty

Garoghlanian = An American tribe

Trot = Used for horse

Streak = An inherent quality

Capricious= Unpredictable

Vagrant= A word in an American language meaning ‘run’

Surrey= A light four wheeled carriage

➤ Answer the following questions in 30-40 words:

1) Which tribe did Aram belong to? What was the image of his tribe?

Ans. Aram belonged to the Garoghlanian tribe who were the natives of America. This tribe was once rich and prosperous and had their lands but due to war or some other reason they had to flee from their homeland and settled in Assyria where they lived in poverty. This tribe was famous for their trust and honesty. They believed in right and wrong. They knew the art of living as they were contented with their lot. They were hospitable and men of simple faith.

2) Why did Aram find it hard to believe that Mourad had stolen the horse?

Ans. The narrator couldn't believe that his cousin Mourad had stolen horse because they belonged to the Garoghlanian tribe. The members of their tribe were famous for their honesty. They believed in right and wrong. None of them would deceive anybody in the world.

3) What are the unique traits of Garoghlanian tribe?

Ans. The Garoghlanians were men of simple faith. They were contented with their guests with coffee and tobacco. They knew the art of living, which is the celebration of being alive. Though poor, they were famous for their

trust and honesty. They were proud of their honesty. They believed in right and wrong. None of them could think of deceiving anybody in the world.

➤ **Answer the following questions in 100-150 words:**

1) Relate some of the humorous incidents in the story. Which incident do you find most amusing and why?

Ans. The incident related to uncle Khosrove are quite amusing. The repetition of his pet catch phrase, "It is no harm. Pay no attention to it," causes humour whenever it is used in an incongruous context. For example, his own son Aram ran eight blocks to the barber shop where Khasrove was having his moustache trimmed to tell him that their house was on fire. This was a serious matter. Instead of living the place, he roared. "It is no harm, pay no attention to it." When the barber explained that his son was saying that his house was on fire, Khasrove silenced him by roaring, "it is no harm". At the end of the story, uncle Khosrove again became irritated and shouted at farmer John Byro to be quiet. He said, "Your horse has been returned. Pay no attention to it." The incongruity is obvious. The most amusing incident is the conversation between farmer John Byro and uncle Khosrove when the farmer sighed sadly and bewailed the stealing of his horse. Uncle Khosrove remarked, "It is no harm. What is the loss of horse?" John Byro tried to convince that his surrey was useless without a horse. Out came Khosrove's catchword "pay no attention to it." This phrase is repeated when the farmer complained that his left leg hurt him. When John Byro said that the horse had cost him sixty dollars Khosrove remarked, "I spit on money." The incident ends at John Byro walking out angrily, slamming the screen door.

2) Comment on the role of Aram the narrator in the story "the summer of the beautiful white horse"

Ans: Aram in the story "The Summer of the Beautiful White Horse" being the narrator plays the role of commentator also. He not only narrates the various adventures, incidents and actions but also provides useful information regarding the main characters and their behaviours. He seems to be the fulcrum on which the whole story rests. He gives a graphic description of Garoghlanian tribe, its members, their traits and economic

features. Mourad and his uncle Khaskove represent the crazy streak in the tribe. Abject poverty of the family does not diminish his pride in his family which is famous for honesty. He says no member of the Garoghlanian family could be a thief. He makes a fine distinction between stealing a horse for a ride and stealing a horse to sell it off. He gives a fine description of the horse ride and countryside with its vineyards, orchards, irrigation ditches and country roads.



L. 2 “The Address” – Marga Minco

❖ Word meanings:

- 1) Poignant – arousing sadness
- 2) Evoke – arouse
- 3) Chink – narrow opening
- 4) Cardigan – sweater with buttons
- 5) Acquaintance – know person
- 6) Lugging – caring
- 7) Confronted – come face to face



Q-1.) Answer the following questions in 30-40 words:

a) Who was Mrs. Dorling? What did the narrator’s mother tell her about the woman?

- Mrs. Dorling was an old acquaintance of the narrator’s mother whom she had not seen for years. She had recently renewed their contact. Since then she has been visiting their house regularly. Every time she left their house she took something with her.

b) Why did the narrator suddenly decide to leave?

- The narrator had visited 46, Marconi Street for a specific purpose-to see her mother’s belongings and touch them. However, these objects seemed to have lost their value in strange surroundings and on being served from the life of former times. So, she suddenly decided to leave.

c) Why did narrator want to forget the address finally?

- The narrator was eager to take back her mother’s belongings and made some efforts but at last decided to forget the same and move ahead. In fact she had found Mrs. Dorling and her daughter using those things as their own. The things had also lost the beauty in a different background. So she decided to leave bitter past and start afresh.

Q-2.) Answer the following in 100-120 words:

Q-1.) Describe the narrator’s second visit to Mrs. Dorling’s house.

- The narrator’s first visit to Mrs. Dorling’s house was in vain. She decided to try for a second time. This time a girl of about fifteen opened the door to her. Her mother was not at home. The narrator said that she would wait for her. Following the girl along the passage, the narrator saw their old fashioned iron candle-holder hanging next to a mirror. The girl made her sit in the living room and went inside. The narrator was horrified to find herself in a room she knew and did not know. She found herself in the midst of familiar things which she longed to see again but which oppressed her in the strange atmosphere. She dared not look around her. The woolen table cloth, the cups, the white tea-pot, the spoons, the pewter plate, everything was full of memories of her former life lost values in strange surroundings, they too appeared strange to her. She no longer had desire to possess them. She got up, walked to the door, and came out of the house.

Q-2.) Comment on the significance of the title of the story “The Address”.

- The story has been aptly given the title, “The Address”. This title is significant. The story moves around Mrs. Dorling’s address: Number 46, Marconi Street. Mrs. Dorling was an old acquaintance of the narrator’s mother. She had carried their valuables to her house for safety during the war time. She said that she wanted to save all their nice things because

they would lose everything if they had to flee from the place. The narrator's mother told her Mrs. Dorling's address. The narrator had remembered the address.

- When the war was over and things became almost normal, one day the narrator had an intense longing to see and touch the objects which were linked with the memories of her former life. She knew that all the things must still be preserved by Mrs. Dorling. So she went to number 46 in Marconi Street. She was horrified to find in a room she knew and did not know. She found herself in the midst of familiar things which she longed to see again but which oppressed her in the strange atmosphere. Suddenly, the objects lost their value in strange surroundings, they too appeared strange to her. She realized that the address lost all its significance for her and she wanted to forget it.



L. 3 Discovering Tut: The Saga Continues – A. R. Williams

❖ Word meaning:

- 1) Forensic reconstruction – process of reconstruction of the face
- 2) Gilded – thinly covered with gold
- 3) Antiquities – very old objects
- 4) Resins – a sticky flammable organic substances
- 5) Amulets – ornaments worn round the neck
- 6) Sheaths – covering to keep the swords
- 7) Pallbearers – those who carry coffins

❖ Answer the following questions in 30-40 words:

a) Who was King Tut? Why was a CT scan done on him?

- King Tut was a boy King of Egypt who was the last heir of its powerful family. This family ruled it for centuries. His tomb was discovered in 1922 by Howard Carter. A CT scan was done on his mummy to get new clues about his life and death.

b) How had King Tut been lavished the royals when he was buried?

- King Tut had been lavished with glittering goods. These were precious collars, necklaces, bracelets, rings, amulets, a ceremonial apron, sandals, sheaths, etc. All these things including the coffin were made of pure gold. It was believed that he would take them with him in his journey beyond after death.

c) What effect did Tut's demise have dynasty?

- King Tutankhamun was the last pharaoh of his dynasty that ruled Egypt for decade. The dynasty rattled down after the demise of king Tut.

❖ Answer the following questions in 100-120 words:

a) "He was the last of his family line." What do you learn about Tut's dynasty from the extract 'Discovering Tut: The Saga Continues'?

- Tut's grandfather, Amenhotep III was a powerful Pharaoh who ruled for almost four decades at the height of the dynasty's golden age. His son Amenhotep IV promoted the worship of the Aten, the sun disk. He changed his name to Akhenaten. He further shocked the country by attacking Amun, a major God, breaking his images and closing his temples. Thus, the wacky King started one of the strongest periods in the history of ancient Egypt. After Akhenaten's death a mysterious ruler named Smenkhare appeared briefly and departed without leaving any sign. Then a very young Tutankhaten took the throne. He is widely known today as King Tut. The boy King soon changed his name to Tutankhamun 'living image of Amun'. He supervised the restoration of the old ways. Tutankhamun ruled for about nine years and then died unexpectedly. The details of his passing away are not available. The modern world has speculated about what happened to him. How did he die and how old was he at the time of his death are two unanswered questions.

b) How has Tut's mummy fascinated the scientists and commoners alike over the previous decades?

- King Tutankhamun was the last Pharaoh left of his line. His funeral marked the end of a dynasty. He was laid to rest laden with gold as the royals in Tut's time were extremely wealthy and thought they could take their riches with them. His tomb was discovered by Howard Carter, an English archaeologist in 1922, more than 3000 years after his death. The rich royal collection of jewellery and golden artifacts fascinated Carter. Visitors thronged the boy King's tomb. The breastbone and front ribs of Tut were missing. On 5th January, 2005 a CT scan was done to obtain precise data for an accurate forensic reconstruction of King Tut. It was hoped that it would offer new clues about his life and death. Thus Tut's mummy has been the centre of fascination throughout the previous decades.



Chap 4 Landscape Of The Soul

➤ By Nathalie Trouveroy

❖ Word meanings:

- 1) Commissioned – ordered specially
- 2) Anecdote – short entertaining story about a real person
- 3) Sneaked – moved secretly
- 4) Shanshui – Chinese word for – landscape
- 5) Middle void – space between two elements of an image where they interact
- 6) Sire – respectful form of address to a king
- 7) Panel – flat board on which painting can be made



❖ Q1 Answer the following questions in 30-40 words:

a) What happened when Wu Douzi clapped his hands ?

When the painter Wu Douzi clapped his hands the door of the cave opened.

He entered the cave but its door closed after him. The painting vanished and nothing was heard of the painter thereafter.

b) What is the importance of man between Yang and Yin?

Yang and Yin are the two complementary poles of the universe. Man is the conduit of communication between Heaven and Earth. His presence is essential. He is in Francois Cheng's wonderful expression, "the eye of the landscape".

c) How would you classify 'art' on the basis of your reading the chapter

'Landscape of The Soul'?

We may classify 'art' i.e painting and sculpture broadly as 'mainstream' offering 'outsider art'. Whereas the former are the products of trained artists, the latter's are the works of those who have received no formal training, yet show talent and artistic insight. It is the art of the untrained visionary.

d) How does the Chinese story present the powers and limitations of Emperor and the painter?

The emperor may commission a painter and appreciate his painting's

beauty, but only the artist reveal to him the true meaning of his work. Secondly, the emperor may rule over the region he has conquered, but only the artist knows the way within.

Q2 Answer the following questions in 100-150 words :

a) How does the Chinese view of art differ from the European view ? Illustrate your answer with examples.

A western figurative painting is meant to reproduce an actual view of the scene whereas a classical Chinese landscape is based on an imaginative, inner or spiritual approach. The Chinese art aims at achieving the essence of inner life and spirit while the European form of art is trying to achieve a perfect illusionistic likeness.

The European painter wants the viewer to borrow his eyes , and look at a Particular exactly as he saw it, from a specific angle. On the other hand, the Chinese painter does not choose a single view point. His landscape is not a real one. He does not want the viewers to borrow his eyes. He wants the beholder to enter his mind . One can enter a Chinese landscape from any point and move across leisurely and come back. The Chinese view of art also requires an active participation of the viewer. The participation is both physical and mental.

The stories about the paintings of Wu Daozi and an old story from Flanders amply illustrate the difference.

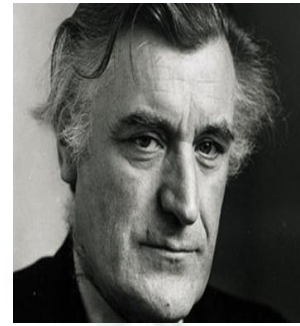
b) Which art does Nek Chand represent and how ? How has he been honoured?

Nek Chand, through his creation, the Rock Garden at Chandigarh , represents what is called outside art or outsider art'. This art is described as art of those who have ' no right' to be artists. This is because they have received no formal training, yet they show talent and artistic insight. It is similar to the concept of ' art brut' or raw art' originated by the French painter Jean Dubaffein the 1940s. It is of those works that are in their raw state as regards cultural and artistic influences.

Nek Chand has been honoured by UK based magazine titled 'Raw Vision'

This magazine is pioneer in 'Outsider Art' publications. It has featured Nek Chand and his Rock Garden sculpture, 'Women by the Waterfall' on its anniversary issue's cover. It is its 50th issue (Spring 2005)

L.2 The Laburnum Top By Ted Huges



❖ Word meanings:

1. Goldfinch – a small yellow bird
2. Twitching – often involuntary movement of the body
3. Chirrup – the sound made by a bird
4. Startlement – amazement
5. Sleek – smooth
6. Tremor – shaking
7. Stokes – add fuel

❖ Answer the following extract based questions:

a) **The Laburnum top is silent, quite stills**

In the afternoon yellow September sunlight

A few leaves yellowing, all its reeds fallen

i) Which season is being discussed in these lines?

Autumn season is being discussed in these lines

ii) Write the lines which tell us so.

A few leaves yellowing, all its seeds fallen refer to the autumn season.

iii) Name the poetic device used in the second line.

The poetic device used in the second line is alliteration September Sunlight.

iv) Describe the Laburnum tree.

The laburnum tree is silent as all its leaves are yellowing and its seed have fallen.

b) **“Then sleek as a lizard, and alert and abrupt, She enters the thickness and a machine starts up of Chitterlings and a tremor of wings and trillings.”**

i) Name the poem and the poet?

The name of the poem is “The Laburnum top” and its poet is , Ted Huges .

ii) Who does she refer to?

She refers to a blind goldfinch.

iii) What has she been compared to?

She has been compared to a lizard which is alert.

iv) Explain a machine starts up ?

When the goldfinch enters the tree to feed its babies they starts Chirruping and flap their wings . it seems as if machine has started.

❖ **Answer the following questions in 30-40 words:**

a) How does the poet describe the Laburnum tree top?

The laburnum tree top is silent and still in the afternoon of yellow September sunlight. The laburnum top appears silent and quite still. A few leaves of the tree are turning yellow. All the seeds of the tree have fallen.

b) What happens to the Laburnum Tree after the goldfinch flies away?

After singing the goldfinch, flies away into infinite. The laburnum tree becomes silent and quiet again. Emptiness comes to it and it becomes as dead as it was earlier.

c) How does the poet describe the beauty of the goldfinch ?

The poet describes the beauty of the goldfinch in the way it chirrups. It brings life to the silent and empty laburnum tree. Its chirruping is musical and life has been brought to the tree in its singing. It is her beauty.

❖ **Answer the following questions in 100-150 words :**

a) Give a brief account of the sounds and movements of the goldfinch on the top .

The goldfinch chirrups and suddenly settles on the end branch on the top of the laburnum tree . Then quite suddenly and watchfully she enters the middle part of the tree. She moves smoothly like a lizard. Then the tree is filled up with a series of short, quick high pitched chattering sounds, shaking of wings and quavering sound. The whole tree shakes slightly and is excited.

It seems as if a whole machine has started working. This thickness of the tree houses the family of goldfinch and she stokes the engine of her family before leaving the tree and flying off to the infinite. The laburnum top regains its silence and stillness.

<https://www.10convert.com/watch?v=G7yIQ7aPchM>

L. 3 “Ranga’s Marriage” – Masti Venkatesha Iyengar

❖ **Word meanings:**

- 1) Cartographer – a person who makes maps
- 2) *Karigadabu* – sweet coconut samosas
- 3) Annaya – respectful term for an elderly person
- 4) Janewara – a sacred thread worn by Brahmins
- 5) Read the stars – make prediction
- 6) Palmyra – palm
- 7) Rambling – talking aimlessly



Q-1.) Answer the following questions in 30-40 words:

a) Why was Ranga’s homecoming a great event?

- Ranga, the accountant’s son, was one of the rare breed amongst the village folk who had been to the city of Bengaluru to pursue his studies. When he came back home after six months, it was a great event. A large number of villagers crowded around his house to see whether he had changed or not.

b) What changes came in Ranga after his meeting with Ratna?

- Ranga had decided not to get married at an early age. But one day when he went to the narrator’s house, he stopped at the threshold as he heard Ratna’s singing. He was enchanted by her and kept glancing at her.

c) Why did Ranga name his child ‘Shyama’?

- Ranga and Ratna named their son after Shyama to pay respect to the narrator i.e. Shyama, who was the one to unite both of them in the bond of marriage. Moreover, it is an English custom to name the child after someone whom a person likes and both Ranga and Ratna liked Shyama.

Q-2.) Answer the following question in 100-120 words:

a) Give the character sketch of “Ranga”?

- Ranga is a typical South Indian young man whose feet are firmly entrenched in the traditional Indian culture but head is swayed by the latest acquisition of English language and ways of life. He seems to have attained marriageable age according to the norms prevalent in society at that time. The narrator finds him generous and considerate. The young man could rightly assess a person’s worth and knew when it would be to his advantage to talk to someone. At first Ranga seemed to be in favour of love marriage – marrying a girl of one’s choice, whom one loved and who would be mature enough to understand love talk and reciprocate it. The systematic steps taken by the narrator to rope in Ranga to marry Ratna shows that the young man has a sensitive heart. Ranga’s act of naming his golden boy ‘Shyama’ after the dark coloured narrator Shyama shows his adherence to the English custom of naming the child after someone you like. Above all, Ranga appears as a smart but lovable fellow.

b) Comment on the title of the story ‘Ranga’s Marriage’.

- The title of the story ‘Ranga’s Marriage’ is quite appropriate and suggestive. It at once sums up the theme of the story. The whole story has one central issue – Ranga’s Marriage. It begins with Ranga’s refusal to marry just then and ends with his blissful married life. All the incidents contribute to the central theme. The writer has presented the working of a young

educated Indian's mind and heart. He is easily influenced by the English way of life and customs. He wants to adopt them in his own life as well. The narrator, who is his well wisher takes deep interest in him and takes active steps to wean Ranga away from the fantasy of love marriage. By arousing his interest and fascination in young girl, Ratna, he makes Ranga agree to marry her. She does not fulfill the other condition of being a mature girl in twenties she is just eleven at that time.

NOTICE WRITING

Question 1 You are Amit / Asha. As President of the Dramatic Club of your school you have organized an inter-school competition in one-act plays on the occasion of the Silver Jubilee celebrations of your school. Write a notice in about 50 words, informing the students of your school about this proposed event.

Dramatic Club
SCINDIA SCHOOL, JAMNAGAR

16 AUG. 20XX

NOTICE

On the occasion of the Silver Jubilee celebrations of the school, the Dramatic Club has organized an inter-school competition in one-act plays as per details given below:

Date : 30 Aug 20XX

Time : 10 a.m. onwards

Venue : Taxila Auditorium

Participants : Maximum 7 in a team

Last Date for the receipt of Entry forms : 25 Aug. 20XX by 4.00 pm

Amit /Asha

President

Dramatic Club

Question 2 You are president of the Cultural Society of your school. You are planning to organise a cultural programme. Write a notice for the school notice-board inviting names of students willing to participate. You are Sumedh , the secretary of the society.

Answer:

Cultural Society
ABC School, Bhopal

9th Aug. 20XX

NOTICE
OPPORTUNITY FOR BUDDING ARTISTS

Talented students are invited to submit their names for a musical evening to be held on 21st August 20XX in the school open air theatre from 6 p.m. onwards

Items : (i) Light vocal music (solo)

(ii) Group Song

(iii) Group Dance

(iv) Classical Dance (Solo)

Contact the undersigned before 16th Aug. 20XX.

Sumedh

Secretary

Cultural Society

Question 3 You are Dharam /Dolly, the secretary of the Dance and Drama Society of the Sanskriti School, Ahmedabad Write a notice for your school notice board inviting students to give their names for a Fancy Dress Competition.

Answer:

Dance & Drama Society
THE SANSKRITI SCHOOL, AHMEDABAD

9th Aug.20XX

NOTICE

A Fancy Dress Competition will be held as under:

Date : 25 Aug. 20XX

Time : 11 a.m. onwards

Venue : School Auditorium

Duration of performance : 3 minutes

Last Date for submission of names : 16 Aug. 20XX by 4 p.m.

For details contact the undersigned

Dharam/Dolly

Secretary

Dance & Drama Society

Question 4 You are Avant!Avinash. As Secretary of Students' Forum you want to start a Wall Magazine for the students of the school. Write a notice inviting articles, stories, poems and campus-news for the Wall-Magazine.

Answer: Solve yourself

Factual paragraph 1

The Way Human Body Defends

1. The defence mechanism of human body is a gift of nature provided to human beings. The power of our body to fight against various disease-producing agents is known as defensive mechanism. This defensive mechanism depends upon various factors which can be categorised mainly into two types—common factors and special factors.
2. Amongst the common factors, the most important is the health of human beings. We all know if we are having a good health, our body automatically remains protected against the diseases. For keeping good health one should have nutritious balanced diet. A balanced diet is that which contains carbohydrates, fat, proteins, vitamins in proportionate amount.
3. The skin of our body saves us against many micro-organisms producing diseases, provided that it is intact. In case there are cuts or abrasions on it, the micro-organisms penetrate the body through those cuts and abrasions and can cause diseases. Therefore, a cut or an abrasion should never be left open. In case there is no bandage, etc. available, it may be covered by a clean cloth.
4. Some bacteria are residing on and inside the human body. They are our friends and are useful for us. They do not cause any disease and by their presence they do not allow disease-causing organisms to settle on those places. For example, the micro-organisms, present in human saliva secrete a chemical which does not allow diphtheria causing bacteria to grow inside the oral cavity.
5. The human body secretes a variety of fluids, which are killers for disease causing micro-organisms. For example, gastric juice (acidic in nature) secreted by our intestinal tract kills all organisms which enter our body through food.
6. There are a few automatic activities of our body known as “reflex phenomenon” which protect the body against many infections. This reflex phenomenon includes sneezing, coughing and vomiting. •
7. Fever is one of the most important constituents of the defensive mechanism of our body. The organ which regulates the temperature of our body is known as hypothalamus and it is situated in the brain. When micro-organisms after entering the body release toxic products and these reach the brain through blood, the hypothalamus starts increasing the temperature of body the person gets fever. This fever is very useful for the human body because by the increase of temperature the micro-organisms which are the root cause of the problem get killed.
8. We are living in an environment which is full of bacteria. Many of these bacteria can produce serious diseases, but all of us do not suffer from such diseases. It is due to a special power present in our body to fight these diseases. A part of this special power of our body is known as innate immunity. This is inherited by us. The other part of this special power is called acquired immunity. This we gain during our lifetime.

9. In a nutshell, we can say since nature has provided us with defensive mechanism to fight against so many diseases, let us maintain it and rather increase it by the way of immunisation.

Answer the following questions by choosing the most appropriate option:

1. **One should have nutritious balanced diet because.....**
 - (a) it has food items for various tastes
 - (b) it keeps one healthy
 - (c) it is recommended by a dietician
 - (d) it has all essential items
2. **The defence mechanism of human body is important as.....**
 - (a) it protects us from diseases
 - (b) it checks deterioration of body
 - (c) it saves us from depression
 - (d) it builds up the wear and tear
3. **In order to check the micro-organisms penetration in the human body.....**
 - (a) we must cover the whole body
 - (b) we must rub insect repelling oil
 - (c) we must use antiseptic solutions
 - (d) we should keep cuts and abrasions covered
4. **Gastric juice secreted by our intestinal tract kills all extraneous organisms as.....**
 - (a) it flows very fast
 - (b) it is acidic in nature
 - (c) it prevents their multiplication
 - (d) it is a natural stimulant
5. **We can increase our defensive mechanism by.....**
 - (a) developing friendly bacteria
 - (b) checking infection through reflex phenomenon
 - (c) seeking proper immunisation
 - (d) suppressing fever in initial stages
6. **(d) suppressing fever in initial stages.....**
 - (a) blood poisoning
 - (b) study of poisons
 - (c) harmful bacteria in plants/animals
 - (d) poisonous

. Answer the following questions in brief:

7. How can micro-organism's penetration be checked in the human body?
8. What is the role of gastric juice in human body?
9. How can we increase our defensive mechanism?
10. What do you mean by reflex phenomenon? How is it helpful for human body?
11. Give the similar meanings.
 - (a) scraping or rubbing of (para 3)
 - (b) poisonous (para 7)

Cave The Caves para 2

1. One thousand and five hundred years ago, when craftsmen began cutting rocks and sculpting them into magnificent statues of gods, little did they realise that in the second millennium the Elephanta Caves would not just be a major tourist attraction but would also be a World Heritage Site.
2. Now the world's oldest island caves are getting a new lease of life. The Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH) has teamed up with the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) to spruce up the caves and protect them from further decay and degeneration.
3. Elephanta Caves date back to the sixth century and boast of some of India's most magnificent rock-cut sculptures of Lord Shiva. Situated about 11 km from the Gateway of India, these caves are reached by small boats. Once on the island, visitors have to climb over 1,000 stone steps to get to the caves.
4. The caves were originally built during the reign of the Rashtraputa kings. They contain huge images of Brahma, Parvati, Natraja and Shiva. The best and most famous of these is Maheshmurti—a three headed bust of Shiva which is about six metres high.
5. The great elephant structure in black stone which gave the island its name was removed in 1864 by British to take it to England. However, it was later returned to India and now stands at the Victoria Gardens, a park with a small zoo in the centre of Mumbai. On top of the caves are two huge cannons installed by the British in order to protect Bombay harbour.
6. In the main cave there are nine carvings which depict the life of Lord Shiva in different manifestations—the dancer (Nataraja), Shiva killing demon Andhaka, marriage ceremony of Shiva and Parvati, Shiva's descent to the Ganges, Shiva as Ardhnarineshwar, Shiva as Maheshmurti, Shiva lifting Mount Kailash, Goddess Parvati on Mount Kailash and Shiva as ascetic.
7. Back in the mid-eighties, a team of leading international archaeologists, conservators and historians visited the site and forwarded a proposal to UNESCO to grant heritage status to the caves. The proposal was accepted and Elephanta Caves were declared a World Heritage Site in 1987.
8. The most important part of the effort is to clean up the surroundings of the heritage site. For example, there is an ancient site built adjacent to the gate which houses some of the best frescoes and showcases the art of carving out statues by cutting rock. ‘
9. The next phase was to clean up the littered surroundings and also to discourage visitors from carrying eatables and plastic bags inside the caves. This step too was roundly criticised but gradually people were educated on the historic and religious importance of the caves and the incidents of littering have considerably reduced.
10. To protect the caves from vandalism security personnel were deployed a year ago. “This has helped authorities to implement regulations stringently,” says an INTACH volunteer of the organisation's Mumbai chapter.
11. Elephanta Caves have for years been threatened by the rapid industrial development in their vicinity. A toxic chemical storage terminal has been planned just 400 metres away. Bilge from oil-exploring activities and plastic dumped in the sea, have seriously threatened marine and bird life of the area.

A. Answer the following questions by choosing the most appropriate option:

1. **The most distinguishing feature of the Elephanta Caves is.....**
 - (a) that they date back to one thousand and five hundred years ago
 - (b) that these are the world's oldest island caves
 - (c) that rocks have been cut and sculpted into magnificent statues of gods
 - (d) that they have some of the most magnificent rock-cut sculptures of Lord Shiva
2. **The six metres high three headed bust of Shiva is known as.....**
 - (a) Natraja
 - (b) Ascetic Shiva
 - (c) Mahurinmurti
 - (d) Ardhnarinateshwar
3. **Before being declared a World Heritage Site, the caves were.....**
 - (a) in a filthy state
 - (b) in a dilapidated state
 - (c) in a magnificent state
 - (d) in a precarious state
4. **Security personnel were deployed in order to.....**
 - (a) protect caves from vandalism
 - (b) help authorities to implement regulations
 - (c) help clean up the surroundings
 - (d) discourage visitors from carrying eatables inside
5. **The most potent threat the caves suffer from is.....**
 - (a) a toxic chemical storage terminal
 - (b) the bilge from oil exploring activities
 - (c) plastic dumped in the sea
 - (d) the rapid industrial development in their vicinity
6. **The word 'degeneration' in para 2 means.....**
 - (a) become bad
 - (b) the process of becoming worse
 - (c) losing too much water
 - (d) stop production

B. Answer the following questions in brief:

7. What was the status of the caves before being declared a World Heritage?
8. Why were the security personnel deployed?
9. What is the most potent threat the caves are suffering with?
10. Where is the great elephant in black stone standing now?
11. What do these word mean
 - (a) Degeneration (para 2)
 - (b) Spruce (para 2)

Discursive Paragraph 1

Living with floods

1. Floods are not new to India and this sub-continent, but in recent years the problem has received much greater attention perhaps largely because it has led to much greater damage than in the past. Even though information on the impending occurrence of floods is now more accurate and certainly more timely, often there is very little time or support infrastructure in place by which damage can be minimized. This is particularly true in the case of flash floods resulting from sudden and excessively heavy rain.
2. In the case of India flooding is very much a function of the seasonal nature of our rainfall. The monsoons are spread over a short period during the year and often bring a concentrated volume of rain, which cannot be absorbed by the earth and finds outlet only in the form of streams that join up with our major river systems. But, flooding is not confined only to the main rivers of the country, often smaller tributaries and streams can cause heavy damage as well. Once these streams spill over their banks they could cause excessive harm, mainly because those living near the banks of these streams particularly in mountain areas do not have easy recourse to moving away quickly.
3. One major factor that could lead to a higher severity of flooding in the future is the danger of climate change. While the evidence of the nature of impacts resulting from climate change on precipitation and flooding at the regional level is not entirely clear, it could happen that the Indian subcontinent witnesses and suffers the effects of a significantly changed pattern of monsoons. One set of scientists has estimated that the monsoons could be shorter in duration, but far more intensive. In other words, much greater precipitation would take place in a much shorter period of time, thereby increasing the danger of floods. Climate change is the result of human actions through the increased concentration of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, of which carbon dioxide is the most prominent.
4. At the local level also human actions have heightened the danger of flood through the cutting of trees in the mountains as well as in the plains. In the case of India, the ecological damage through deforestation of the Himalayas has led to large-scale erosion of the mountain slopes and high levels of siltation. This leads to deposition of silt on the riverbeds in the plains and hence spill over of water whenever the volume in the river reaches a certain level. With siltation on the river beds, flooding occurs even at very shallow water levels. The vulnerability of the population has increased substantially because of population pressures, symbolized, for instance, by the stubborn and perhaps helpless settling of slum dwellers on the banks of the river Yamuna in Delhi, which is merely a trickle most of the year, but bursting its banks during the monsoons as has been the case this year.
5. Flood forecasting is critical to minimizing the damage from floods. It is for this reason that the Central Water Commission has set up a network of forecasting stations, which cover the most important flood prone inter state rivers in the country. These stations produce forecasts that are used to alert the public and to mobilize various official agencies so that they take both preventive as well as relief measures whenever required. However, even in cases where forecasts have been timely and generally accurate, people have often been reluctant to move away, because in most cases they lack the means and physical options for moving away from a danger zone to one that is relatively safe. In the case of flash floods, forecasts are difficult to make, and often the time available for relief is very short.

A. Answer the following questions by choosing the most appropriate option: 6

1. **The problem of floods has been considered important recently because.....**
 - (a) there are flash floods
 - (b) floods are unpredictable
 - (c) the rivers change their courses
 - (d) these cause much greater damage
2. **The danger of floods is not minimised as.....**
 - (a) flood forecasting is inaccurate
 - (b) there is little time available for safety measures
 - (c) people are scared and act in panic
 - (d) support infrastructure is poor
3. **India suffers from floods during monsoons because.....**
 - (a) it rains very heavily and continually
 - (b) the embankments of the rivers are weak
 - (c) the streams and rivers spill over
 - (d) the streams are full of silt
4. **Climate change is the direct result of.....**
 - (a) increased concentration of green house gases
 - (b) explosion of nuclear devices
 - (c) fire in oil wells in the gulf region
 - (d) significantly changed pattern of monsoons
5. **The worst hit people are slum dwellers because.....**
 - (a) they are stubborn and helpless
 - (b) they do not have means to move away quickly
 - (c) they have concentrated in large numbers
 - (d) they have settled on the banks of the rivers
6. **The word 'precipitation' in para 3 means.....**
 - (a) forming a precipitate
 - (b) separation of solid material from liquid
 - (c) falling of rain in an area
 - (d) the quality of being exact or accurate

B. Answer the following questions in brief:

7. Why does India suffer from floods during monsoons?
8. What is the result of greenhouse gases?
9. Who are the worst hit people?
10. Which human action have heightened the danger of flood?
11. Write the words from passage which are similar in meaning.
 - (a) Fall of rain in an area (para 3)
 - (b) Harshness (para 3)


POSTER DESIGNING

Question 1 Design a poster in not more than 50 words for your school library on the value of books and good reading habits. You may use slogans.

Books—Our Best Friends

BOOKS

- ♦ inform
- ♦ instruct
- ♦ delight
- ♦ enrich



*Take a book
a day!
Don't Delay*

**Your School Library
has ten thousand
books**

When you are gloomy or lonely
Your best friend is a book!
**Don't judge a book by its cover
- Read it !**

Reading makes a ready man

*Read best
Speak best
Think best*

*Make reading
a regular
habit*

Question 2 As the President of Leo Club of Temple Town, prepare a poster on behalf of Lions Club and Leo Club for 'Diwali Mela' to be held at Nehru Stadium, mentioning some of the attractions.

LIONS CLUB AND LEO CLUB
organise a sparkling

DIWALI-MELA

to

ILLUMINE YOUR LIVES WITH JOY & HAPPINESS

Venue : Nehru Stadium Chennai Date : 4th to 6th November
Time : 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Entry Fee : Adults: ₹ 20, Children: ₹ 5/-

Celebrate Eco-friendly Diwali
Save the Environment
CRACKER-FREE

Sponsored by
Pepsi

Question 3 As Cultural Secretary of Puna International School, Ahmedabad , design a poster to announce the staging of a play in your school.

Design yourself

Speech writing:

Question 1

Regular practice of yoga can help in maintaining good health and even in the prevention of so many ailments. Write a speech in 150-200 words to be delivered in the morning assembly on the usefulness of yoga.

Answer

Good morning Respected Principal Maam/sir, Teachers and Dear Friends. I, ABC, have come before you all to speak on the usefulness of yoga. Yoga means the experience of unity with one's inner being. Yoga is the Sanskrit word for "union".

It has been a practice that uses postures and breathing techniques to induce relaxation and improve strength. In the last few years, the benefits of yoga have gained acknowledgement and popularity the world over. Yoga has now become a way of life with the aim 'a healthy mind in a healthy body.' Man is a physical, mental and spiritual being and yoga helps to promote a balanced development of all the three.

Other forms of exercises like aerobics, jogging etc. assure only physical well-being. They have little to do with the development of the spiritual body. Yogic exercises recharge the body with cosmic energy which facilitates attainment of perfect equilibrium and harmony, promotes self-healing, removes negative blocks from the mind and toxins from the body and also reduces stress and tension. One feels rejuvenated and energised with yoga. Yoga's popularity worldwide is because people have realised the essence of self-contentment and inner peace and understand that yoga is the only and best way to attain these two essentials. Yoga also helps in the prevention of ailments like hypertension, diabetes, arthritis etc. With its numerous benefits to control the body and the mind the usefulness of yoga cannot be denied or overlooked.

Thank you!

Question 2

Media has a stronghold on society. Write a speech in 125-150 words on how media influences public opinion to be delivered in the school assembly.

Over the last two decades, the influence of media has grown exponentially. We trust the media as an authority for news and information.

Good Morning! Respected Principal, Teachers and Dear Friends. I, have come before you all to talk about media's strong influence on public opinion.

Media reflects and projects the view of a minority elite, which controls it. Society is influenced by the media. This media not only helps public to get information about a lot of things but also makes them form opinions and make judgement regarding so many issues. Media limits the thinking capacity of people and affects the youth in the society who lack in experience and sometimes blindly believe in what they see or hear. And many times the news covered is over-exaggerated and sensationalized and this diverts public attention away from the actual problem. The media also has the ability to influence society by broadcasting what they believe you should see.

The media can thus form or modify public opinion in different ways depending on what their objective is. So it is our duty as enlightened citizens to not let ourselves be misled.

Thank You!

Home work

Q3. Mobile phone of today is no longer a mere means of communication. Music lovers are so glued to it that they don't pay attention even to the traffic while crossing the roads. This leads to accidents, sometimes even fatal ones. Write a speech in 150-200 words to be delivered in the morning assembly advising the students to be careful in the use of this otherwise very useful gadget. Imagine you are the Principal of your school.

Do it your self

Report writing

Question 1

Recently your school held a Seminar on Conservation of Water as a part of World Water Day celebrations. As the School Pupil Leader of Maryland School, Gurgaon, write a report in 100-125 words for a local daily. Sign as Pinakin/Prisha

Answer

Seminar On Water Conservation
By: Prisha/ Pinakin
Maryland School,

Gurgaon 16th March, 20xx, Gurgaon: Our school organised a seminar on 'Water Conservation' as part of the World Water Day Celebrations on 13th August, 20xx. The main aim of this

seminar was to remind us all about the need to save the government and the non-governmental organisations in providing help water as it is a precious source imperative for our survival.

distinguished environmentalists and eminent personalities were our guest speakers and they reiterated the need not only of conserving water but also spoke at length on how to conserve water by stressing upon the fact that each drop of water is precious. Dr. Yashraj, an eminent environmentalist, suggested rain-water harvesting as one of the best ways to conserve water.

Using visual aids to highlight his discourse, he suggested that to ensure availability of water for the future generations the withdrawal of fresh water from an ecosystem should not exceed its natural replacement rate. The seminar concluded on the note that water conservation is the most cost-effective, environmentally sound way to reduce our demand for water and so each one of us must do our bit towards improving water management to enhance optimum use of water.

Question 4.

Your state government has banned the use of plastic bags. You are Aman, a reporter of The Hindu. Write a report in 100-125 words on how the ban is being ignored and what damage the indiscriminate use of plastic bags is causing to the environment.

Answer:

Environment Unfriendly Polybags

By: Aman, Staff Reporter

The Hindu

In the year 2002 the government had banned the production and use of plastic bags in our country. But unfortunately, these are now being widely used again everywhere. Not only are we using a huge number of polybags daily but we are also discarding them in our drains uncaring about the fact that they will block the flow of drain water. Polybags are also a threat to our environment. They cause pollution, kill wildlife and are responsible for using up the natural resources of the earth. They are one of the main factors that litter the landscape. If burnt, they will infuse the surrounding air with toxic fumes.

The main problem of plastic bags is that they are non-biodegradable. The decomposition of plastic takes around a thousand years, so with the plastic rubbish produced each day it is likely that this problem will never be solved. While the government works out ways to lessen the impact of polybags on the environment each one of us too should shoulder some responsibility for this problem that ultimately harms us all.

Question 3 (Home work)

You are Poorvesh/Poonam, Cultural Secretary of your school, PUNA International School Ahmedabad. A week-long Music and Dance festival was organized by your school. Write a report in 100-125 words for your school magazine. Invent the details.