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HORNBILL

L5 The Ailing Planet: The Green Movement's Role -

Nani Palkhivala

The Green Movement started nearly twenty-five years ago. The world's first nationwide Green party was founded in New Zealand in 1972. Since then, the movement has not looked back. In fact, no other movement in world history has excited human race so much as the Green Movement. For the first time, there is a growing awareness that the earth itself is a living organism. It has its own metabolic needs and essential processes.

The signs pertaining to the Earth's life show a patient in declining health. People have now fully realised their moral duty to be good custodians of the planet and responsible trustees of the legacy to future generations

The World Commission on Environment and Development popularized the concept of sustainable development in 1987. It defined the idea as the development that meets the needs of the present with out endangering the ability of future generations to meet their needs.

The Brandt Commission was the first International Commission to deal with the question of ecology and environment. The first Brandt report raised the question whether we were to leave our successors a dried earth of increasing deserts, poor landscapes and ailing environment. Mr. Lester R. Brown has listed Earth's four main biological systems. These are fisheries, forests, grasslands and croplands. They form the basis of the world's economic system. They supply us food and raw materials for industry. In large areas of the world, these systems are reaching unsustainable level. Their productivity is being damaged. When this happens, fisheries break down, forests disappear, grasslands are changed into barren wastelands and croplands become worse.

Man is the most dangerous animal in the world. Now he has realized the wisdom of shifting from a system based on domination to one based on partnership. Scientists have arranged list of 1.4 million living species on earth besides man. About three to hundred million other living species still stay unnamed in humiliating darkness.

Overfishing is common in protein hungry world. In poor countries, local forest are destroyed to obtain fuel for cooking. Tropical forests are wearing away at the rate of forty to fifty millions acres a year. The growing use of dung for burning deprives the soil of an important natural fertiliser. Over the last four decades 'India's forests have reached disastrous exhaustion. India is losing its forests at the rate of 3.7 million acres a year. Large areas, officially named forest land, are almost treeless. A UN study warns that the environment has deteriorated quite badly in many of the eighty-eight countries investigated.

The growth of world population is one of the strongest factors distorting the future of human society. Mankind reached the first billion mark in more than a million years. That was the world population in the year 1800. By the year 1900, a second billion was added. The twentieth century has added another 3.7 billion. The present world population is estimated at 5.7 billion. Every four days the world population increases by one million.

Fertility falls as income rises, education spreads and health improves. Development is the best contraceptive. However, development may not be possible if population goes on increasing at this rate. The population of India is estimated to be 920 million in 1994. It is more than the entire populations of Africa and South America put together. Unless population control is given top most priority, the hope of the people would die in their hungry hutments. There is no alternative to voluntary

family planning without an element of coercion. The choice is really between control of population and continuation of poverty.

We notice a surpassing concern. People are worried not only about their own survival but that of the planet as well. People have begun to take an over-all view of the very basis of life. The environmental problem is our passport for the future. A new world vision has emerged. It has ushered in the Era of Responsibility. It is a holistic view, an ecological view. We now see the world as an integrated whole rather than separate parts

Industry has very important role to play in this new Era of Responsibility. Leading businessmen should excel in environmental performance. Then they can continue to exist as leading manufacturers. The words of Margaret Thatcher are used frequently. She remarked: No generation has a free hold on this earth. All we have is a life tenancy with a full repairing lease.'Mr. Lester Brown, the author of 'The Global Economic Prospect' rightly observes, "We have not inherited this earth from our forefathers, we have borrowed it from our children."

❖ **Word meanings:**

- 1) **Recall –remember**
- 2) **Gripped – controlled**
- 3) **Irrevocably – permanently**
- 4) **Stewards – caretaker**
- 5) **Catalogued – classified**
- 6) **Unsustainable – not possible to replace**
- 7) **Coercion – use of force**



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

a) What do you understand by the concept of sustainable development?

- The concept of sustainable development is linked with the survival of human race. It means to consume the resources of the earth in a manner that does not hamper the survival of the coming generations. We should use the resources for our present need without compromising the right of our children to use them in their need.

b) How are the earth's principal biological systems being depleted?

- The four principal biological systems of the earth are croplands, fisheries, forests and grasslands. Their productivity has become impaired because of human pressure on them. Forests have been cleared. Grasslands have been converted into wastelands. People are overfishing for protein. The world's increasing population is the cause behind the depletion of these biological systems.

c) Why does the author agree that growth of world's population is one of the strongest factors distorting the future of human society?

- The world's population has grown fast since the year 1800. At present the population of the world has reached 5.7 billion. Forest cover is deteriorated due to

population pressure. It results in the expansion of deserts. Grasslands are becoming barren. Natural resources are depleting fast. The environment has deteriorated upto the critical point. The existence of man himself is threatened. Many species of life have faced

total extinction. Thus, the population growth is one of the strongest factors distorting the future of human society.

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

a) Why does Nani Palkhivala call all the earth “The Ailing Planet?” How can the ailing planet survive?

- The signs of the earth connected with life (necessary for staying alive) show that the earth is patient in declining health. Its deserts are advancing. Landscapes are being impoverished and environment had deteriorated very badly in many parts of the world, in fact, it has become critical in many parts of the world eighty eight countries investigated.
- The concept of sustainable development and Green Movement can help the ailing planet to survive. People must discharge their moral responsibility as stewards of the planet and trustees of the legacy of the future generations. The plundering of the natural resources should be controlled. These must be preserved for the future generations.

b) We have not inherited this earth from our forefathers we have borrowed it from our children. Elucidate.

- This statement is made by Mr. Lester Brown, the author of the book ‘The Global Economic Prospect’. Mr. Brown has in his mind the well known belief that the property which we inherit from our forefathers is ours and we can do whatever we like with it. So, he asks us to use or abuse as we like. It is something which we are duty-bound to preserve for the next generations. So while we use the earth and its resources for our present needs, it is our duty to see that we do not compromise the ability of the future generations to meet their needs.
- It is therefore, very important that we do not strip the natural world of resources future would need. Even more important is the fact that we do not pollute these resources which make them useless or harmful.

HORNBILL

Chap. 6 The Browning Version - By Terence Rattigan

Summary

This is an excerpt from Terence Rattigan's play 'The Browning Version'. The scene is set in a good school. Taplow, a boy of sixteen has come in to do extra work for his master Mr. Crocker-Harris. He has not yet arrived. Another master, Frank, younger in years than Mr. Crocker-Harris finds Taplow waiting. Incidentally, it is the last day of the term.

Taplow is a student in the lower fifth form. He does not know whether he will get his division all right or not. He tells Frank that Mr. Crocker-Harris does not tell them the results like the other masters. Frank informs Taplow that there is a rule that form results should only be announced by the headmaster on the last day of the term. Taplow says that no one except Mr. Crocker-Harris pays attention to it.

Frank then asks Taplow what he would like to study if his result is favourable. Taplow indicates his preference for science. Frank remarks that they get all the slackers in science. Taplow disagrees with him and says that he is extremely interested in science. Frank observes frankly that he is not interested in the science he is to teach. Taplow, on the other hand, finds the study of Greek play 'Agamemnon' muck. His objection is to the way, the play is taught to them-just a lot of Greek words strung together and fifty lines if one gets them wrong. Taplow's answers show that he is feeling a bit bitter. Frank is surprised that Taplow has come in to do extra work even on the last day of school. Taplow says that he missed a day last week when he was ill. So he has to put in extra work. The weather is quite fine and he might be playing golf. He knows that Mr. Crocker-Harris must be quite busy then as he is leaving the school for good the next day.

The conversation then shifts to Mr. Crocker-Harris. Taplow had asked him the previous day if he had given him a good division and he said that he had given Taplow exactly what he deserved-No less and certainly no more. Taplow is afraid that he might have marked him down, rather than up, for taking extra work. The man is hardly human. Frank then encourages Taplow to repeat the remarks of Mr. Crocker-Harris. Frank does not find his imitation up to the mark and asks him to read his Aeschylus and be quiet.

Frank suggests to Taplow that he might cut the class and play golf as Mr. Crocker-Harris has not turned up. Taplow is shocked at the suggestion as he can't think of ever doing so. Frank envies Mr. Crocker-Harris for the effect he has on the boys. They seem scared to death of him. Taplow says that the Crock is not a sadist like other masters. He would not be so frightening if he were. It would then seem that he had some feelings. He seems dry like a nut and hates people to like him. Still Taplow likes him. Sometimes Mr Crocker-Harris sees it and he shrivels up even more.

Taplow then relates an incident when his master related one of his classical jokes in the class. Nobody laughed, as they couldn't understand it. Taplow laughed as he knew he had meant it as funny. He felt sorry for his master for having made such a poor joke. Taplow has forgotten the joke, but offers to

imitate the reaction of Mr Crocker-Harris. The laughter of Mr Frank encourages Taplow to do so. Frank seems to enjoy the joke and asks Taplow to tell it to others.

In the meanwhile Millie Crocker-Harris enters. Frank and Taplow are surprised to see her. Taplow is afraid that she might have overheard their joke. If she told her husband, Taplow's division would be in danger. Frank dismisses his fear. Millie tells Taplow that her husband is at the Bursar's and might be there quite a time. She says that if she were Taplow, she would go. Taplow is filled with doubt.

He says that Mr Crocker-Harris had especially asked him to come. Millie then suggests that he might run away for a quarter of an hour and come back. Taplow is still uncertain and wonders what will happen, if he gets there before his arrival. Millie offers to take the blame. She then hands him over a prescription and asks him to go to the chemist and get it made up. Thus he can do a job for him. Taplow agrees and leaves the room.

❖ **Word meanings:**

- 1) Excerpt – a short extract from a piece of writing
- 2) Criterion – standard
- 3) Muck – rubbish
- 4) Slackers – weak students
- 5) Aeschylus – a Greek dramatist
- 6) Sadist – person who gets pleasure from giving pain to others
- 7) Frantically – hurriedly

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

a) What suggestions of Mr. Frank shocked Taplow ? Why ?

Frank had suggested that Taplow could cut Crocker Harris because the latter was already ten minutes late. This suggestion shocked Taplow because he could not even think of doing such a thing.

b) What leads Mr. Frank to comment, I'm sure you're exaggerating ? Taplow says that Mr. Crocker Harris seems to hate people to like him. Yes in spite of everything, Taplow does rather like him. He can't help him. He thinks that sometimes Mr. Crocker Harris notice it and that seems to shrivel him up even more. This observation of Taplow seems farfetched . so Mr. Frank remarks that he is exaggerating.

c) What did Crocker Harris say when Taplow asked him his 'remove' ? Crocker Harris told Taplow that he had got what he deserved. However , he refused to tell him what exactly his remove was.

d) How do Frank and Taplow react on the arrival of Millie Crocker ? Their reaction differ . Frank feels infinitely relieved at seeing her. May be, he was waiting for her. Taplow is, on the other hand, frightened. He wonders if Millie has heard what he spoke about her husband. He is afraid that if the matter is reported to Crocker Harris , he might not get his remove.

Q2 Answer the following questions in 100-150 words :

a) Give a character sketch of Crocker Harris from what you have read from 'The Brownian Version'.

Crocker Harris is a teacher who teaches Greek to the lower fifth form at a good school. He is the in-charge of the form and as such he alone knows about the

result of the students of his form which are to be officially announced the next day.

From Taplow's comments about Crocker Harris, we learn that he is a teacher who takes his teaching very seriously. We learn that even on the day when he is leaving the school for good, he has called a student for extra work because the said student has missed a day last week.

He is the one who doesn't like to be flattered. He will judge a student only by his merit and not because of any prejudice. It is a tribute to his character that although students like Taplow do not like his severity, yet they love and respect him from the core of their hearts.

b) "This humorous piece is an extract from a play." "The Browning Version"
What according to you makes this extract humorous?

The play presents a funny situation. Frank, a young science teacher, finds a sixteen-year-old Taplow waiting for his master Mr. Crocker Harris. The lower fifth form student has been asked to come in to do extra work on the last day of the school. Mr. Crocker Harris is leaving the school for good the next day. Being quite busy in settling his own affairs, he has not yet arrived there. Taplow's fear of adverse remarks about his results makes him smile.

The interaction between Mr. Frank and Taplow is quite amusing. The young science teacher encourages Taplow's comment on Crocker Harris. The manner in which Taplow imitates his master's voice, manner of speaking and diction are quite amusing. The sudden arrival of Millie Crocker Harris in the midst of an imitation of a joke surprises Frank and makes Taplow nervous. Their reactions are quite amusing. Taplow's unwillingness to leave

the place and his fear of consequences in case his master returns before his arrival seems quite genuine but funny. He feels relieved only when Millie offers to take the blame. All these actions seem exaggerated and funny.

L. 8 Silk Road - Nick Middleton

Silk Road summary is about the author's journey which starts from slopes of Ravu to Mt. Kailash. This was to complete the kora. Thus, it gives us an account of the journey they experience. Moreover, the main aim of the journey was religious mostly. We see that the author wishes to complete the journey to Mt. Kailash. Thus, in order to embark on this pilgrimage journey, he chooses a tough one. Further, the author hires Tsetan and takes along Daniel as an acquaintance to chaperon him to Darchen. Consequently, we learn about his journey and his experience through the Silk Road. He mentions how the people in hilly areas are rather sensitive. The author goes on to witness the beauty of Lake Mansarovar and Darchen. Moreover, he faces a lot of difficulties but is able to complete his pilgrimage due to his undeterred faith.

The author of the story, Nick Middleton, describes his journey to Mount Kailash in Silk Road. In order to complete his Kora, the author wishes to visit Mt. Kailash. Thus, he hires Tsetan so that he gets someone for driving him up to the mountain. While he was parting with Lhamo, he receives a long-sleeved sheepskin coat. In order to get companionship, the author takes Daniel with him till Darchen.

Upon starting their journey, Tsetan takes a short-cut to the south-west. He says it is a direct route to Mt. Kailash. In order to reach their destination, they would have to cross the high mountain passes. However, Tsetan assures them that due to lack of snow, it would be easy to do so. On their way, they cross through a small number of gazelles, a herd of wild asses and shepherds that were tending the flocks.

Upon reaching the hill, they notice dark tents. They learn they were nomad's homes and see a Tibetan mastiff guarding the tents. When they reach near the tents, the dogs with large jaws ran after their car. Upon entering the valley, they witness mountains and rivers covered in snow and ice.

The ride on the hill starts turning sharper and bumpier. As they reached higher, the author could feel the pressure and noticed they were at 5210 meters above sea level. After clearing the first hurdle of snow-filled roads, they were on and about. The author starts feeling uneasy due to height and pressure. At around 2 o'clock in the afternoon, they stop for lunch.

Finally, they reach a small town 'Hor' in late afternoon. The author took a break in Hor and sat at the local café sipping on tea. During this time, Tsetan got the car fixed and Daniel left for Lhasa. The author did not like Hor too much. Upon resuming the journey, they stay the night at a guest house in Darchen. We see how he suffers from nose-congestion due to the altitude change and chilly weather. He goes to see a Tibetan doctor and receives a five-day course medication.

After that, he feels better and enjoys his stay at Darchen where he meets another pilgrim, Norbu. As Darchen had no pilgrims, the author finds relief and decides to complete his pilgrimage with him. Finally, they hire yaks for their luggage and Norbu gives up while collapsing across the table and laughing. Norbu's says it would not be possible for him and he also had a big tummy.

Conclusion of Silk Road

To sum up the Silk Road summary, we learn about the author's journey through the silk road and the determination of pilgrims and the hardships they face.

❖ Word meanings:

- 1) *drokba* – nomad shepherd
- 2) *kora* – pilgrimage
- 3) void – empty space
- 4) *kyang* – wild asses
- 5) lurching – moving unsteadily
- 6) prone – inclined
- 7) paraphernalia – dress identifying his profession

❖ Answer the following questions in 30 – 40 words:

a) Why did the author take the short cut inspite of high mountain passes?

Ans : The short cut would take them south west, almost directly towards Mount Kailash. Crossing high mountains pass posed breathing problems. Absence of snow meant a fairly good ride.

b) What were drokbas doing in the “rocky wilderness “?

Ans: Drokbas are the people, men, or women who were tending their flocks in the rocky wilderness. They wear long sleeved sheepskin coat to protect themselves from the cold of the high mountains.

c) How did the author pass the first night at Darchen ?

It was very troubled night. The author suffered from cold .He breathed through his mouth. His chest felt heavy. He tired his best to sleep but in vain. Almost the whole night, he had to keep awake.

❖ Answer the following questions in 100-150 words :

a) Describe the author's journey from the top of the pass to his stay at Hor.

Ans: The top of the pass was at 5,515 metres. It was marked by a cairn of rocks. The author along with two other persons took a turn round the cairn in a clockwise direction as is the tradition. The author was suffering from severe headache at this altitude. Now the car careered down to the other side of the pass. He was glad that his headache had now disappeared. At about 2 pm they stopped for the lunch. Then they started again and by late afternoon reached the small town of Hor. Here Daniel parted company. He went back to Lhasa in a truck that was going there.

Tsetan decided to repair his punctured tyres here. So he sent the author to a café

To pass about half an hour. Hor did attract the author. Though it sat on the shore of the sacred lake Mansarovar, it was dirty and full of refuse. When Tsetan came back, the author started on his journey again

b) What impression do you form of the author, Nick Middleton on the basis reading ‘ Silk Road’?

Ans: The author is bald headed English knowing gentle man. He was keen on performing Kailash Kora. He undertook the hazardous journey to mount Kailash for his purpose, he hired Tsetan's car and took

Daniel as companion for escorting him upto Darchen. He seems to be a lover of adventure who is not at all afraid of taking risks. This is evident from his assent to take a short-cut through high mountains passes involving the risk of slipping on snowy roads.

He is keen observer of men and manners. He has a sharp eye for details. He describes the hilly people quite sensitive. He gives a graphic account of difficulties faced during ascent. His headache and loss of sleep was caused by cold and high altitude. His observations about lake and Hor reveal the difference between legend And reality. He dislikes dirt and shabbiness.

He faces communication problem after Tsetan leaves and before he meets Norbu. However, he waits and takes correct decisions. He approves of

Norbu's practical suggestion to hire Yaks to carry luggage. In short, he is a sensitive and likable fellow.

P. 3 “The Voice of the Rain” – Walt Whitman

Summary

In the poem, the poet asks the soft-falling shower, ‘Who are you?’ to which she replies that she is the poem of earth. It is a strange thing for the rain to reply to the poet. The rain told the poet that she cannot be touched as she rises in the form of water vapor in the sky from the land and the bottomless sea. It changes its shape yet it remains the same. The vapor changes into clouds due to condensation.

It falls back on the surface of the earth to provide water to the drought-prone areas and to beautify and purify the earth (its birthplace). It provides life to the seeds inside the earth and helps them grow.

The rain doesn’t care if anyone bothers about her deeds or not, she completes her work and comes back home. The poet also compares the rain with a song as they both share a common journey. The song originates from the heart of the singer, travels across to fulfill the aim and comes back with due love for the singer (its originator).

❖ Word meanings:

- 1) Eternal – everlasting
- 2) Impalpable – unable to be felt by touching
- 3) Bottomless – very deep
- 4) Whence – from where
- 5) Vaguely – unclearly
- 6) Descend – fall downwards
- 7) Lave – wash

Q-1.) Answer the extract based questions:

*A) I am the poem of earth, said the voice of the rain,
Eternal I rise impalpable out of the land and the bottomless sea,
Upward to heaven, whence, vaguely form’d,
Altogether changed, and yet the same,*

i. How is the speaker the poem of the earth?

The rain is the poem of the earth as it gives new life to the scorched earth.

ii. Explain “altogether changed, and yet the same”

The poet means that the rain changes many forms as it goes from the earth to the sky yet essentially it remains a form of water or rain.

iii. Name the poem and the poet.

The poem is “The Voice of the Rain” and it is written by Walt Whitman.

*B) “I descend to have the droughts, atomies, dust-layers
of the globe.*

*And all that is in them without me were seeds only,
latent, unborn.”*

i. What happens when “I” falls on the earth?

When “I” i.e. the rain falls on the earth, it brings respite from the heat, washes away the dust and gives life to plants and trees.

ii. What will happen if “I” was not there?

If “I” were not there, the seeds would have remained latent, unborn and would never have grown into new plants or trees.

iii. Give the synonyms of (a) lave (b) latent

(a) pollute, dehydrate

(b) existing

Q-2.) Answer the following in 30-40 words:

a) What answer does rain give to the poet about its origin?

Ans: The rain answered the poet that it was the Poem of Earth. It rose eternally out of the land and the bottomless sea into the sky. There it is formed vaguely and changed its form. But it remains the same.

b) Why is rain compared to music?

The poet compares the rain with music. The poet watches the falling showers of the rain.

The showers are falling very lightly producing a soft music. Like music, rain too is life giving and inspirational. It spreads love and joy.

c) Give the central idea of the poem, “The Voice of the Rain”.

The rain calls itself poem of earth. It is everlasting and perpetual. It is something that cannot be touched. It originates from the land and the deep sea. Then it rises upward to heaven where it changes its form into a cloud, yet remains the same in quality. From the sky it pours down on earth to wash the dry thin particles and dust layers of the earth. The rain helps the unborn seeds to sprout. These seeds lay hidden and unborn under the layer of earth. Rain gives back life to its origin making it pure and beautiful.

Chap. 4 Childhood - Markus Natten

SUMMARY

The poet seems puzzled about the loss of childhood. It is natural in the process of growing up. Still, the poet tries to find an answer to his two queries: When did my childhood go?’ and Where did my childhood go?’

The first possibility of the time of departure of his childhood relates to the age when he had completed the age of eleven. It was then that he developed a power of understanding. Then he became aware that Hell and Heaven could not be found in Geography. Since they could not be located anywhere in world, he concluded that they did not exist. He thus reached a logical conclusion based on his reasoning power.

The second possibility relates to the time when he realized the hypocrisy of the adults. They were not all that they seemed to be. They talked of love and gave advice of love, but did not act so affectionately.

The third possibility relates to the time when he found that he was the master of his mind. He could use it whichever way he chose. He could now produce his own thoughts and need not repeat those of others. A sense of individuality dawned on him. He wonders whether he lost his childhood on one of these days.

In the final stanza, the poet dwells on the problem where his childhood has disappeared. On the basis of his limited knowledge he thinks that his childhood went to some forgotten place that was hidden in an infant's face. The poet implies that adolescence follows childhood in the same way as childhood had replaced infancy. It is a stage in the process of growing up

❖ **Word meanings:**

- 1) Ceased to be – stopped being
- 2) Preached – taught
- 3) Really mine – when not influenced by others' opinions

❖ **Answer the following extract based questions:**

A) They talked of love and preached of love, But
did not act so lovingly
Was that the day?

a) Name the poem and its composer.

The poem's name is 'Childhood' and the composer is Markus Natten.

b) Who are they?

They are the adults who preach about love but never act accordingly.

c) What does the poet observe about their behaviour?

The adults were not what they were seemed to be . They pretend a lot They are hypocrites who preach love and all good things but behave in a different manner.

B) When did my childhood go ?

Was it the day I ceased to be eleven,
Was it the time I realized that Hell and heaven, Could not be
found in Geography,
And therefore could not be , Was that the day!

a) When did the poet leave his childhood behind?

When he realised that hell and heaven exist in the minds of the People.

b) What big change has taken place in the life of the poet?

The poet has left behind his childhood.

c) What does he know now about Hell and Heaven?

Both exist in the mind of people.

Q2 Answer the following questions in 30-40 words:

a) What happened when Markus Natten completed eleven years of age?

At eleven years the poet Markus Natten understood the difference between fact and fiction. He understood that the things such as hell and heaven are only figments of human imaginations.

b) Why does the poet feel that Heaven and Hell are not real places?

As the speaker grew mature, he acquired reasoning power. He realized that Hell and Heaven could not be found in Geography books or Atlas. Since they could not be located anywhere in the world map, he concluded that they did not exist. He would believe only what he could see and find.

c) What does the child think about the adult in the poem 'Childhood' ?

The poet of the 'Childhood' Markus Natten found the adults hypocrite.

He says that these adults talked and preached of love but in their actions they did not practice it. Thus they were hypocrites.

d) How did the realization of being the master of his own mind help him? The realization of being the master of his own mind and could use it in anyway he liked, filled with self confidence. He could now think independently and need not repeat parrot like thoughts of others.

Q3 Answer the following questions in 100-150 words:

a) What according to the poem is involved in the process of growing up ? According to the poem, the process of growing up involves at least three Important steps . First the child begins to differentiate between truth and fiction. The second step is when he begins to understand the false pretensions of the people around him. The last and the most important step in the process of growing up is independent thinking.

b) Which do you think is the most important step towards adulthood ? Why ?

Having an independent mind free from any outside influence is the most important step towards adulthood. That is why, the poet mentions it as the third and the final step. Other steps like being rational or learning hypocrisy show an outside influence while this step shows an internal awakening which is the chief quality of human and separates them from other animals.

L. 4 “Albert Einstein at School” – Patrick Pringle

Summary

Albert’s class was on. The History teacher, Mr. Braun, asked Albert when the Prussians defeated the French at Waterloo. Albert told him that he didn’t know. The teacher said that he had often told them. Albert said that he must have forgotten. This irritated the teacher. He asked Albert, “Why?” Albert replied that he didn’t see a point in learning dates. One could learn about them from books. Ideas are more important than facts and figures. The teacher thought that Albert didn’t believe in education. He talked in a sarcastic manner. Albert told him that learning facts was not education. The teacher said that Albert was a disgrace to be there.

Albert felt miserable when he left the school that afternoon. He didn’t like this school. He would have to come to it again. He lived in a small room. It was one of the poorest quarters of Munich. The landlady beat her children regularly. Her husband came every Saturday. He drank in the evening. He then beat her. He didn’t like the children’s crying everytime. He told these things to Yuri. He hated the atmosphere of slum violence.

Next time his cousin Elsa came to Munich. She told Albert that if he tried he could pass the examination. There were more stupid boys than him. Moreover, passing the examination was not difficult. He had not to understand what he is taught. He should merely repeat in the examination. He told Elsa that he was not good at learning things by heart. He liked music as it gave him comfort. He also liked Geology.

Albert didn’t like to remain in school. He met Yuri after six months. He had an idea. He told Yuri that he needed a medical certificate. It should state that he suffered from a nervous breakdown. Then he could get rid of school. He asked Yuri if he had a doctor friend. Yuri told him that he knew Dr Ernest Weil. Yuri told him not to deceive him. He must be frank with him. Albert visited Dr Ernest Weil. Then he had really come near a nervous breakdown.

Dr Ernest issued him the certificate. Albert told Dr Ernest about his future plans. He would go to Milan. He hoped to get admission into an Italian college or institute. It was possible from the comments of the Mathematics teacher, Mr Koch. The mathematics teacher was a different man. He understood Albert well. He gave a glowing testimonial to him. He wrote that Albert knew so much that he couldn’t teach him any more. He was ready to enter a college.

The head teacher summoned Albert to his room. He wanted Albert to leave the school then. Albert asked why it was so. He asked if he should think he was to be expelled. The head teacher told him that if he went of his own accord, that question didn't arise.

The head teacher gave several reasons for his asking him to leave the school. Albert's presence made it impossible for the teacher to teach and pupils to learn. He rebelled and no serious work would be done while he was there. Albert felt that the medical certificate was useless. Albert wished to tell him what he thought of him and the school. But he did not. He went out of the room.

Before leaving the town, Albert saw Yuri. He had no other real friends.

❖ **Word meanings:**

- 1) Expulsion – forced removal
- 2) Squalor – filth, waste
- 3) Howling – crying
- 4) Briskly – quickly
- 5) Not mincing words – speaking frankly
- 6) Rebellion – opposition of the teacher
- 7) Stalked - march

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

a) Why did Albert hate his lodgings? What would he do to divert his mind?

- Einstein lived in a rented room in one of the poorest quarters of Munich. He did not like the place because of the atmosphere of slum violence. His landlady beat her children regularly. The wailing and howling of kids got on his nerves. In order to divert his mind he would listen to music as a 'comfort' because it provided him relief from the noise prevailing in the landlady's house.

b) How did Yuri and Elsa comfort Albert Einstein in his moments of gloom and despair?

- Yuri tried to comfort Albert by telling him about the fight between the students in which one of them was killed. Elsa tried to counsel Albert by saying that she knew a lot of boys who were much more stupid than him but got through it.

c) What did Mr. Koch think of Albert?

- Mr. Koch was quite impressed with Albert. He wrote that he was good at Maths and had learnt everything that was required to enter a college for the study of higher Mathematics. He was of the view that Albert could even teach Mr. Koch with his knowledge of Mathematics.

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

a) Comment on the role of Yuri in the story.

- Yuri is the central figure in the story. Yuri was the only friend whom Einstein could rely upon in Munich. When he felt too miserable in school, he told his woes to him. One day he confided to him that if he could procure a medical certificate from a friendly doctor that he was suffering from nervous breakdown. Yuri ultimately enabled him to have the desired certificate that too without any charge. He advised and helped him from time to time.

b) Why did the Headmaster summon Albert? What was the outcome?

- Albert was quite fed up with the present school and the technique of education. He could not tolerate the insult done by his History teacher Braun. Albert got a medical certificate from Dr. Ernest Weil. Dr. Weil

certified that he had a nervous breakdown and must stay away from school. Albert didn't need this certificate. The next day the head teacher called Albert to his office. He told Albert that his work was terrible. So he was not prepared to have him in the school. Albert asked if he should think he was to be expelled. The head teacher told him that if he left the school of his own accord, the question won't arise. Albert asked what crime he had committed.

- The teacher told him that the teacher couldn't teach the class when he was in it. Also due to his presence, the students couldn't learn. Albert wanted to tell the head teacher what he thought of him and the school. But he didn't say anything. The head teacher asked him to close the door behind him. But Albert didn't do so. Nor did he have the last look at his school. He only met Yuri and saw Mr. Koch, got the certificate and left Munich.

Lesson 5 Mother's Day – J. B. Priestly



Summary

Mother's Day is a hilarious drawing room comedy by J.B. Priestley. It raises a serious issue and deals with it in a humorous manner. The comic undertone, however, does not belittle the importance of the issues raised in the play.

The play centres round Mrs Annie Pearson, a devoted wife and doting mother. She is a pleasant but worried looking woman in her forties. Her neighbour, Mrs Fitzgerald, is a fortune teller. She tells Mrs Pearson to make up her mind and assert herself if she wants to be the mistress of her own house and the boss of her own family. At present Mrs Pearson is reduced to the status of an unpaid domestic servant who does all the domestic chores without even being requested for them or thanked later on. She is taken for granted and ordered about.

Mrs Fitzgerald tells her that husbands, sons and daughters should take notice of wives and mothers, not giving them orders and treating like dirt. Mrs Pearson endures the ill-treatment because she is very fond of her husband and children though they are quite thoughtless and selfish. She tries her best to have it out with them but does not know how to begin. She wants to get tea things ready as the members of her family are about to drop in. Mrs Fitzgerald asks her to let them wait or look after themselves for once.

Since Mrs Pearson is too soft towards her family, Mrs Fitzgerald offers a way out. She suggests a

change of personalities for a short duration. Mrs Pearson is doubtful about the success of the plan, but yields. With the help of magic spell learnt in the East, Mrs Fitzgerald carries out an interchange of personalities. Now Mrs Pearson having the personality of her neighbour, becomes bold and dominating and Mrs Fitzgerald is nervous and fluttering.

Doris Pearson, a pretty girl in her early twenties is the first to face the cool and incisive mother. As usual, Doris, the spoilt girl, asks her mother about her yellow silk dress. Mrs Pearson keeps on smoking. Doris is astounded. However, she asks if they are having tea in the kitchen. Mrs Pearson tells her politely to have it wherever she likes. Doris angrily asks her if it isn't ready. Mrs Pearson tells her that she has had what she wanted. She surprises her with the remark that she might go out later and get a square meal at the Clarendon. When Doris angrily asks her mother again whether she has ironed her yellow silk dress, Mrs Pearson tells her that she puts in twice the hours she does and gets no wages or thanks for it. She criticizes her boyfriend Charlie Spence for having buckteeth and being halfwitted. She tells Doris frankly that at her age she would have found somebody better than Charlie Spence.

Now it is the turn of Cyril Pearson, the spoilt brat, who asks for tea as soon as he enters. Since he has got a busy night that night, he asks his mother if she has put his things out. He reminds her of her promise. She tells him that she doesn't like mending. He objects to her talking like that. Mrs Pearson gives him a bit of her mind. She tells him that they all do talk like that. If there's something at home he doesn't want

to do, he doesn't do it. If it is something at his work place, he gets the union to bar it. She says that she has also joined the movement. She then asks if they have any stout left. She goes to the kitchen to bring a bottle, as she wants to drink.

Cyril and Doris go into a huddle and whisper about the behaviour of their mother. Doris states that she could not believe her eyes as she found her mother smoking and playing cards when she came in. Cyril had asked her if she was feeling off-colour and she said she wasn't. Doris observes that she is suddenly all different. She made her cry not only by what she said but by the way she said it and looked. Doris thinks that she has a concussion as a result of falling. Cyril asks if she has become slightly crazy.

Meanwhile Mrs Pearson comes back. She is carrying a bottle of stout and half-filled glass. Cyril and Doris try to stop their guffawing and giggling. Mrs Pearson regards them with contempt and asks them to behave according to their age. She finds nothing funny in their jokes. Doris is tearful again. She wants to know what they have done. Mrs Pearson at once tells them that they have done nothing. They simply come in, ask for something, go out again and then come back when there's nowhere else to go. Cyril tells her aggressively that he'll find something to eat himself if she won't get tea ready. Mrs Pearson tells him to help himself. When Cyril and Doris say that they have been working all day. Mrs Pearson says that she has also done her eight hours. She further says that now it will be forty-hour week for all and she will have had two days off at

the weekend.

George Pearson, a solemn, self-important and pompous looking man about fifty years. He notices Doris in tears and then his wife sipping stout. He is bewildered at her behaviour. He informs her that he won't have any tea as there is a special snooker match at night the club and a bit of supper. Mrs Pearson informs him that there isn't any tea. He is surprised at her answer. She tells him that people laugh at him at the club and call him Pompy-Ompy Pearson because he is slow and pompous. George is horrified. She wants to know why he wants to spend so much time at a place where they are always laughing at him behind his back and calling his name. He leaves his wife alone at home each night. George is dazed and asks Cyril for confirmation. He staggers as Cyril confirms it.

Cyril tells his mother that it is not fair of her to hurt his or his father's feelings. Mrs Pearson remarks that sometimes it does people good to have their feelings hurt. The truth oughtn't to hurt anybody for long. If he didn't go to the club so often, perhaps people would stop laughing at him. Cyril doubts it. His mother tells him that he knows nothing. He spends a lot of time and money at greyhound races, dirt tracks and ice shows.

Mrs Fitzgerald is at the door. Cyril calls her 'silly old bag'. Mrs Pearson tells him to ask her in and address her properly Mrs Fitzgerald is shocked to see how Mrs Pearson is treating her husband and children.

George re-enters and sits aside in arm chair smoking his pipe. Mrs Pearson takes George to task for being impolite. George flares up as she rebukes him in the presence of their neighbour. He asks her if she has gone mad. Mrs Pearson threatens to slap his face if he says that again. George is intimidated. She mockingly asks him to leave for the club.

All this is too much for Mrs Fitzgerald (with Mrs Pearson's personality) to bear. She requests Mrs Fitzgerald for a reversal to the original state. With the chanting of the magic spell, they regain their

original personalities. As a parting advice, Mrs Fitzgerald asks Mrs Pearson to be a bit strict with her looks and tone sometimes to suggest that she might be tough with them if she wanted to. This formula will work. Mrs Pearson says that she wants them to stop at home sometimes, give her a hand with supper and play a nice game of rummy. Mrs Fitzgerald is about to leave. She is glad to see Mrs Pearson handling her family firmly. The trick works and all the members of the family agree to do whatever she says.

❖ **Word meanings:**

- 1) Suburb – outlying area of a city
- 2) Settee – sofa
- 3) Dubiously – in an unsure manner
- 4) Go lax – looking like they are dead
- 5) Buck teeth – upper set of teeth sticking out

- 6) Barmy – insane
- 7) Guffaw – laugh loudly

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

a) How is Doris taught a lesson in behaviour ?

Ans: When Mrs. Fitzgerald remarks that Doris is going out with Charlie

Spence that night, Doris feels annoyed .and retorts that she has got nothing to do with it. Mrs Pearsons

b) How does Mrs. Pearson propose to spend the evening? Is her proposal acceptable to the family ?

Ans: Mrs. Pearson proposes that they would have a nice family game of rummy. Then children could get supper ready while she has a talk with their father. Then looking sharply at the family, she ask them if they have any objection. All speak in one voice that it suits them. Thus, Mr. Pearson finally succeeds in keeping the family home that evening .

c) What picture of Mrs. Pearson emerges in the opening of the play ‘Mother’s Day’?

Ans: Mrs. Pearson is in her forties. She is a pleasant looking woman. She is a typical housewife. She takes delight in serving her family, though they take no notice of her. Even if they are thoughtless and selfish, she is very fond of them. She bears with them patiently as she does not want any unpleasantness in the house.

d) Compare and contrast Mrs. Pearson and Mrs. Fitzgerald on the basis of the play “Mother’s Day” .

Ans: The ladies are sharply contrasted. Mrs. Pearson is pleasant but worried looking woman in her forties. She speaks in a light, flurried sort of tone with a touch of suburban cockney. Mrs. Fitzgerald is older heavier and has a strong and sinister personality. She smokes she has a deep voice rather Irish tone.

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

a) What role did Mr. Fitzgerald play to make Mrs. Pearson the boss of the family?

Ans: Mrs. Pearson’ problem is that she is neglected by her husband and children. She is very fond of her family. She runs after them all the time, takes their orders as if she was the servant in the house and stays at home every night while they go out enjoying themselves. She takes no holiday. They have come to believe that she is there simply to look after them and wait for them , so they take no notice of her.

Her neighbour Mrs. Fitzgerald , helps her solve this problem. She advises Mrs. Pearson to assert her rights as the mistress of the house if she wants them to treat her properly . Mrs. Pearson says that she does keep dropping a hint now and then but she can't be harsh with them as she does not want any unpleasantness in the house. Mrs .Fitzgerald asks her to let her do it. Mrs. Pearson wonders how it is possible. Mrs. Fitzgerald tells her that they would change their personalities with each other. She had learnt this trick when she was in East. Mrs. Pearson hesitates but she finally agrees. The two women change their personalities.

b) The play “ Mother’s Day” is a humorous and satirical depiction of the status of the women in a family. Bring out briefly the elements of humour and satire.

Ans : The play ‘Mother’s Day is a humorous and satirical depiction of the status of women in a family is shown in its serious theme treated in a light- hearted manner. The importance of the character about the personality they are facing also creates humour.

The following dialogues also provides a lot of fun. “Mrs. Pearson if you had to love my life it wouldn’t be so bad. You’d have more fun as me than you’ve had as you”.

“ It’s that silly old bag from next door Mrs. Fitzgerald.”“ Tickling her off now , are you Annie ?.

They call you Pompy- Ompy Pearson because they think you’re so slow and Pompous”

The actions, gestures and reactions of the characters also provide humour. The house wife being given orders, treated like dirt and forced to stay Home every night .while other members go out to amuse themselves in sharply contrasted with the position at the end of the play where she is the

mistress of the house. The play also satires eight hours work culture and threats to go on strike . Even the house wife adopts this weapon.

L.7 Birth – A J Cronin

Summary

It was nearly midnight when Andrew Manson, the young doctor reached Bryngower. He found driller Joe Morgan waiting anxiously for him. Joe told Andrew that his wife, Susan, wanted his help and that too before time. Andrew went into his house, took his bag and left with Joe for number 12 Blaina Terrace.

Joe's voice showed signs of strain as he told the doctor that he would not go in. He reposed full faith in Andrew. A narrow stair led up to a small bedroom. He found two women beside the patient. One was Mrs Morgan's mother. She was a tall, grey-haired woman of nearly seventy. The other was a stout, elderly midwife. The old woman offered to make a cup of tea for the doctor. The experienced woman had realized that there must be a period of waiting.

Andrew drank tea in the kitchen downstairs. He knew he could not snatch even an hour's sleep if he went home. He also knew that the case would demand all his attention. Although he was very worried and upset, he decided to remain there until everything was over. An hour later he went upstairs again. He noted the progress made, came down once more and sat by the kitchen fire. The old woman sat opposite him. His thoughts were filled with Christine, the girl he loved. He stared broodingly, into the fire and remained like this for quite long. He was startled when the old woman suddenly asked him not to give her daughter the chloroform. She feared that it would harm the baby. The doctor replied that the anaesthetic would not do any harm.

An hour passed. It was now dawn when the child was born, lifeless. As he gazed at the still form, a shiver of horror passed over Andrew. His face, heated with his own exertions, chilled suddenly. He was torn between his desire to attempt to make the child start breathing again, and his obligation towards the mother. She was in a desperate state. The dilemma was quite urgent. Instinctively, he gave the child to the nurse. He turned his attention to Susan Morgan. She lay collapsed on her side, almost pulseless and not let out of the effect of medicine to make her unconscious. Her strength was ebbing. He smashed a glass ampoule and injected the medicine. Then he worked severely to restore the soft and weak woman. After a few minutes of quick efforts, Then he asked the midwife about the child. She made a frightened gesture. She had placed it beneath the bed. Andrew knelt down and pulled out the child. It was a perfectly formed boy. Its limp, warm body was white and soft as tallow. The head lolled on the thin neck. The limbs seemed boneless. The cord, hastily slashed, lay like a broken stem. The whiteness meant only one thing-unconsciousness caused by lack of oxygen.

His mind raced back to a case he had once seen in the Samaritan. He remembered the treatment that had been used. He instantly asked the nurse to get him hot water and cold water and basins. Then he snatched a blanket. He laid the child on it and began the special method of respiration. As soon as the basins arrived, he poured cold water into one basin and hot in the other. Then he hurried the child between the two. Fifteen minutes passed. Sweat ran into Andrew's eyes. His breath came pantingly, but no breath came from the lax body of the child.

A desperate sense of defeat pressed on him. It was a quickly spreading hopelessness. The midwife and the old woman were watching him. He remembered the old woman's longing for a grandchild which had been as great as her daughter's longing for this child. All this seemed broken and useless

now. The midwife remarked that it was a stillborn child. Andrew did not pay any attention to her.

He had laboured in vain for half an hour. He still persisted in one last effort. He rubbed the child with a rough towel. He went on crushing and releasing the little chest with both his hands. He was trying to get breath into that limp body. At last, the small chest gave a short, convulsive heave. Then another her heart strengthened. He saw that he might safely leave her.

and another. Andrew redoubled his efforts. The child was gasping now. A bubble of mucus came from one tiny nostril. The limbs were no longer boneless. The pale skin slowly turned pink. Then came the child's cry.

Andrew handed the child to the nurse. He felt weak and dazed. The room lay in a shuddering litter. He wrung out his sleeve and pulled on his jacket. He went downstairs through the kitchen into the scullery. His lips were dry. He took a long drink of water. Then he reached for his hat and coat. It was now five o'clock. He met Joe and told him that both were all right. Andrew kept thinking that he had done something real at last.

❖ **Word meanings:**

- 1) Burly – large and strong
- 2) Premonition – idea
- 3) Contemplation of – thinking about
- 4) Stout – strongly build
- 5) Shrewish – quarrelsome
- 6) Idyllic – perfect
- 7) Elapsed - passed

❖ **Answer the following questions in 30 to 40 words**

a) Who was Joe Morghan? Why had he been waiting for Dr. AndrewManson ?

Ans:Joe Morghan was a driller in Blaenelly a mining town. He was a big strong and heavy middle aged person. Joe and his wife Susan, who had been married for nearly twenty years and were expecting their first child.Joe was waiting for the doctor to help Susan in the delivery of the child.

b) Describe briefly the efforts made by the doctor to revive the child.

The doctor lay the child on a blanket and began the special method of respiration. Then he immersed it alternately in cold water and luke warm water. Fifteen minutes passed, but no breath came from the body of the child. Then the doctor made one last effort. He rubbed the

child with a towel, crushed and released the chest with both his hands. Thus he tried to get breath into the limp body. His effort bore fruit. The little chest gave a short convulsive heave. The doctor redoubled his efforts. The child was gasping.

c) What was the child suffering from?

Ans: As soon as the doctor saw the child, he knew that this was a case of suffocation, the condition caused by lack of oxygen and excess of carbon-di-oxide in the blood. It is accompanied by paleness of the skin, weak pulse and loss of reflexes

d) Why did Andrew say “ I’ll fetch my bag later nurse?”.

Ans Andrew worked hard single headedly and constantly to save the mother and the still born from the jaws of death. The constant efforts, tension, desperation caused by failure combined to make him weak and dozed. Being tired he told the nurse that he would fetch his bag later.

Q2 Answer the following questions in 100- 150 words:

b) Why was Andrew Manson torn between two desires ? How did he resolve this dilemma ?

Ans: Andrew was a medical practitioner in a small mining town. One night he was attending a woman who was expecting her first child. After a long wait and an hour long hard struggle of Andrew, the woman gave birth to a still child. Andrew was in dilemma. When he gazed at the lifeless child, he shivered with horror. Then he looked at the mother who was in a desperate state and needed immediate attention. He was torn between his desire to attempt to bring the child back to life and his obligation towards the mother who lay unconscious. She was almost pulseless. Her strength was ebbing fast. Andrew knew that it was a race against time. He made frantic efforts to restore the flabby woman. Instantly he smashed a glass ampoule and injected the medicine. After a few minutes her heart strengthened. Andrew knew that she was out of danger and he could safely leave her.

c) What impression do you form of Andrew Manson on the basis of the story “ Birth”

Ans : Andrew Manson was a young man who has recently qualified as a doctor and started his medical practice as an assistant to Dr. Edward Page in the small Welsh mining town of Blaenelly. He is in love with Christine and thinks of marriage as an idyllic state. He is filled with love. His steady mind and reason help him see the marriages of many persons as dismal failures.

Andrew is mature enough to keep his private and professional lives apart. Once confronted with his responsibility, he discharges his obligations to the utmost capacity. He is duty conscious. He believes in a practical approach and is not afraid to try unique methods. He has a tender heart too. He is aware of the feeling of others. He knows how deeply Susan loved her upcoming baby. He has a polite manner and reassuring tone. On the whole Andrew is presented as a dedicated doctor.

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) Ardhnarineshwar
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 foods

- 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 !**

*Make reading
a regular
habit*

Read best
Speak best
Think best

Reading makes a ready man

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

Note making – Passage 1:

1. Conversation is indeed the most easily teachable of all arts. All you need to do in order to become a good conversationalist is to find a subject that interests you and your listeners. There are, for example, numberless hobbies to talk about. But the important thing is that you must talk about other fellow's hobby rather than your own. Therein lies the secret of your popularity. Talk to your friends about the things that interest them, and you will get a reputation for good fellowship, charming wit, and a brilliant mind. There is nothing that pleases people so much as your interest in their interest.

2. It is just as important to know what subjects to avoid and what subjects to select for good conversation. If you don't want to be set down as a wet blanket or a bore, be careful to avoid certain unpleasant subjects. Avoid talking about yourself, unless you are asked to do so. People are interested in their own problems not in yours. Sickness or death bores everybody. The only one who willingly listens to such talk is the doctor, but he gets paid for it.

3. To be a good conversationalist you must know not only what to say, but how also to say it. Be mentally quick and witty. But don't hurt others with your wit. Finally try to avoid mannerism in your conversation. Don't bite your lips or click your tongue, or roll your eyes or use your hands excessively as you speak.

4. Don't be like that Frenchman who said, "How can I talk if you hold my hand?"

2.1 Make notes on the contents of above paragraph in any format, using abbreviations. Supply a suitable title also. **5**

2.2 Make a summary of the passage. **3**

.1 Title: The Art of Conversation Notes:

1. **Conv'n—most easily tch'ble art**
 - (a) Reqd. interest'g subject – hobbies
 - (b) Talk about other fellow's int./hobby
 - (c) Win'g reptn. as good conversationalist
 - (i) good f'ship

- (ii) charm'g wit
- (iii) brl. mind
- 2. **Fit subs, for conversationalist**
 - (a) What subs, to avoid/select?
 - (b) Avoid unpl'nt subs.
 - (i) sickness
 - (ii) death
 - (c) Avoid talk'g about self
- 3. **Qualities of a good conversationalist**
 - (a) What to say & how to say it
 - (b) ment'y quick & witty
 - (c) pleasant & unhurt'g
- 4. (d) avoid mannerisms.

2.2 Conversation is the easiest and the most effective tool than other arts. To have such attractive quality, you need to pick a subject that interest your listners more than you. Talk to your friends on topics that can indulge your friends in the conversation for a longer period of time. Being a good conversationalist, you have to quick and witty. You should have a pleasant and unhurting quality. Mannerism should be avoided.

Note making Passage 2:

1. A good business letter is one that gets results. The best way to get results is to develop a letter that, in its appearance, style and content, conveys information efficiently. To perform this function, a business letter should be concise, clear and courteous.
2. The business letter must be concise: don't waste words. Little introduction or preliminary chat is necessary. Get to the point, make the point, and leave it. It is safe to assume that your letter is being read by a very busy person with all kinds of papers to deal with. Re-read and revise your message until the words and sentences you have used are precise. This takes time, but is a necessary part of a good business letter. A short business letter that makes its point quickly has much more impact on a reader than a long-winded, rambling exercise in creative writing. This does not mean that there is no place for style and even, on occasion, humour in the business letter. While it conveys a message in its contents, the letter also provides the reader with an impression of you, its author: the medium is part of the message.
3. The business letter must be clear. You should have a very firm idea of what you want to say, and you should let the reader know it. Use the structure of the letter—the paragraphs, topic sentences, introduction and conclusion—to guide the reader point by point from your thesis, through your reasoning, to your conclusion. Paragraph often, to break up the page and to lend an air of organisation to the letter. Use an accepted business-letter format. Re-read what you have written from the point of view of someone who is seeing it for the first time, and be sure that all explanations are adequate, all information provided (including reference numbers, dates, and other identification). A clear message, clearly delivered, is the essence of business communication.

4. The business letter must be courteous. Sarcasm and insults are ineffective and can often work against you. If you are sure you are right, point that out as politely as possible, explain why you are right, and outline what the reader is expected to do about it. Another form of courtesy is taking care in your writing and typing of the business letter. Grammatical and spelling errors (even if you call them typing errors) tell a reader that you don't think enough of him or can lower the reader's opinion of your personality faster than anything you say, no matter how idiotic. There are excuses for ignorance; there are no excuses for sloppiness.
5. The business letter is your custom-made representative. It speaks for you and is a permanent record of your message. It can pay big dividends on the time you invest in giving it a concise message, a clear structure, and a courteous tone.

2.1 Make notes on the passage using recognisable abbreviations in any suitable format. Give a title to the passage. **5**

2.2 Make a summary of the passage. **3**

Answers:

2.1 Title: Writing a Business Letter

Notes:

1. **Features of a gd. busns letter**
 - 1.1 conveys info efficiently to get results
 - 1.2 is concise
 - 1.3 is clear
 - 1.4 is courteous

2. **How to write a gd. busns. letter**
 - 2.1 Making letter concise**
 - 2.1.1 Intro shd be brief
 - 2.1.2 make your pt in precise words and sent's
 - 2.1.3 short letr more effective
 - 2.1.4 style is imp.—may ocaasly have hum'r
 - 2.2 Achieving clarity**
 - 2.2.1 Have a clear idea of what you wish to say
 - 2.2.2 structr the letter—intro & conclsn.
 - 2.2.3 use accepted format; para, topic, sent's
 - 2.2.4 check facts, expl'ns, refs.
 - 2.3 Being courteous**
 - 2.3.1 Expln. your pt. politely—avoid sarcasm/insults.
 - 2.3.2 careful wrtg & typg.
 - 2.3.3 gram. & spel'g errors to be avoided

3. **Importance of busns. letr**

3.1 a representative

3.2 permanent rec. message.

2.2 A good business letter is that lends you positive and quality results. To get such results, a business letter should be effective in appearance, style and content. Apart from this a letter should be concise, clear and courteous. The business letter should be to the point as the message can be clear to the reader with an impression of you. The structure of letter should have topic sentence, introduction, paragraphs to conclusion. Reread the points you have written to avoid sarcasm and insults that can work against your motive. Further more grammar and spelling errors need to be avoided.