



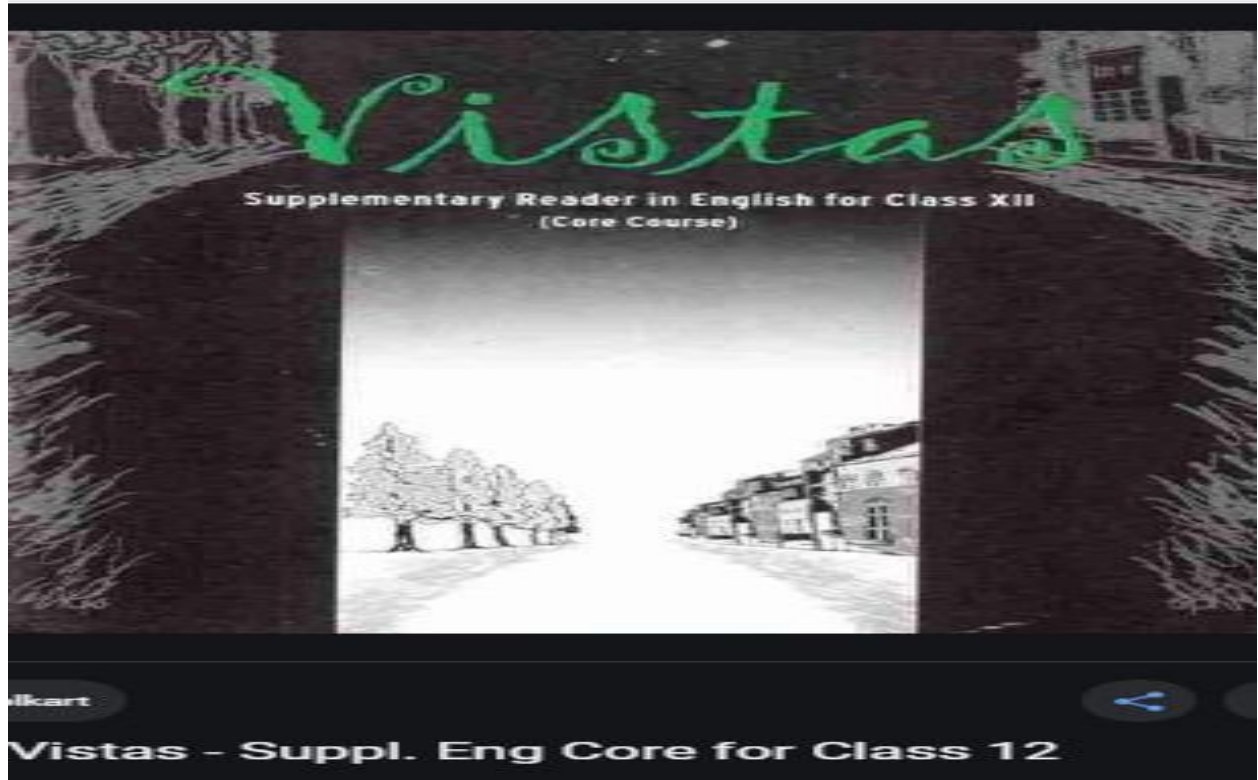
पुर्णना International School

Shree Swaminarayan Gurukul, Zundal

English Core -XII

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L 1 THE LAST LESSON

By Alphonso Daudet



Understanding the meanings in the context of the lesson

- In great dread of = In immense fear
- In unison = In agreement / harmony
- Counted on = Relied on
- A great bustle = A lot of activity
- Thumbed at the edges = Folded at the corners
- Reproach ourselves with = Criticise / blame our selves

Word- meanings

Drilling = Undergoing military training exercises
Rappings = Striking rapidly on a hard surface
Primer = An elementary book for teaching children
Reproach = Criticise ourselves Cranky = A bad tempered

Q I Answer the following questions in 30 to 40 words:

a) **Why is the order from Berlin called a thunder clap by Franz ?**

Ans: The order from Berlin was called a thunderclap by Franz because it was a shock for him to know that the study of French language had been prohibited in the schools of Alsace and Lorraine and only German would be taught there. It was an unexpected development.

b) **How did Franz react to the declaration that it was their last lesson /**

Ans: Franz became sentimental. He knew very little about French. But suddenly, he suddenly he developed a strange fascination and love for this language. Only a while ago, his books seemed a nuisance to him but now these were his old friends.

c) **How does Mr. Hamel prove to be an ideal teacher ?**

Ans : Mr. Hamel proved to be an ideal teacher because he worked with Selfless dedications and rendered his 40 years of meritorious service. He made people conscious of the importance of their language and national identity.

Q II Answer the following questions in 100 to 150 words :

a) Franz's attitude towards the little school as well as Mr. Hamel changes when he comes to know about the takeover of his village by the Prussians

Ans : When Franz came to know that his village had been taken over by the Prussians, suddenly his attitude changed. Feelings of loyalty were aroused in him . He decided that now that he would pay attention to his lesson.

Love for his school and language suddenly became important to him. He felt that he would never miss his school from the very next day which was the contrast to his attitude to avoid the school earlier.

Even Mr. Hamel became a good teacher . Suddenly his lessons became interesting. Franz developed an interest in learning rules of participles.

Franz was genuinely upset that Mr. Hamel was leaving the village..

He had felt that hardly learnt to read and write.

He was sorry that he had wasted the time. He had enjoyed all the time outdoors. He had hated his books . He feared Mr. Hamel and his iron ruler. But suddenly his attitude changed. Mr. Hamel now seemed like a gentleman..The sudden threat of losing very identity sent shivers down his spine and he desperately wanted to learn as much as he could.

The subject was no longer difficult and Mr. Hamel was no longer was a cranky teacher.

b) Our native language is a part of our culture and we are proud of it . How does the presence of village elders in the classroom and Mr. Hamel's last lesson show their love for French ?

Ans : The imposition of German language over the French speaking population can't be justified at all. It is the worst kind of colonialism.

Mr. Hamel's love for French is genuine ,

The shocking order from Berlin arouses patriotic feelings in him.

He loves French as the most beautiful language in the world.

He regrets that the people of Alsace have not paid much heed to the learning of the great language.

He asks the people to safeguard it among themselves. It is the key to their unity and freedom

The people of Alsace and particularly the village elders suddenly realise how precious their language is to them. They come to attend the last class.

Students like Franz are not immune to patriotic feelings.

Franz feels sorry for neglecting the learning of French

He hates the idea of German language being imposed on them.

He remarks sarcastically “ will they make them sing in Germans , even the pigeons ”

L 2 LOST SPRING

By Anees Jung



Understanding the meanings in the context of the lesson

- Looking for = Searching
- Perpetual state of poverty = Continuous state of being poor
- Slog their day time hours = Work very hard throughout the day
- Dark hutments = Number of dingy huts
- Roof over his head = Shelter
- Folded at the corners = Imposed the baggage = Forced the burden on the child

Word- meanings

- Dingy = Dark and gloomy
- Transit homes = Temporary homes
- Squatter = A person who unlawfully occupies an unused land or building
- Desolation = A state of complete destruction.
- Stigma = A mark of disgrace
- Lament = Complaint
- Unkempt = Untidy
- Lineage = Ancestry

Answer the following questions in 30 to 40 words:

a) Why had the rag pickers come to live in Seemapuri ?

Ans: Saheb's family came from Bangladesh in 1971 to live in Seemapuri, Delhi. They had come there because their homes and fields were destroyed by storms. They had nothing to live on.

He was always searching for a coin or Rupee or something valuable in the garbage dumps . He did this as he had no other work to do. The garbage dump was a treasure box for Saheb.

b) Describe the irony in Saheb's name ?

Ans: Saheb's full name was Saheb-e-Alam . It means “ the Lord of

universe” . But the irony was that the poor boy was not even his own master. He was a rag picker and a refugee from Bangladesh whose family had settled in Seemapuri after their fields were destroyed by storms and floods. Instead of being a lord, he wandered on the roads along with other barefooted boys like him.

c) **‘It is a tradition to stay barefoot’What Is the attitude of rag pickers of Seemapuri towards wearing shoes ?**

Ans : The rag pickers of Seemapuri do not have proper shoes to wear. They either , have mismatched shoes or have never owned a pair , in their lives. They stay barefoot. But they explain it as a tradition rather than due to lack of money.

d) **“Survival in Seemapuri means rag picking ”. Comment.**

Ans. The statement is absolutely correct. Rag picking was the only through which the residents there earned their living. Having no job, home or land , this was their only means to survive.

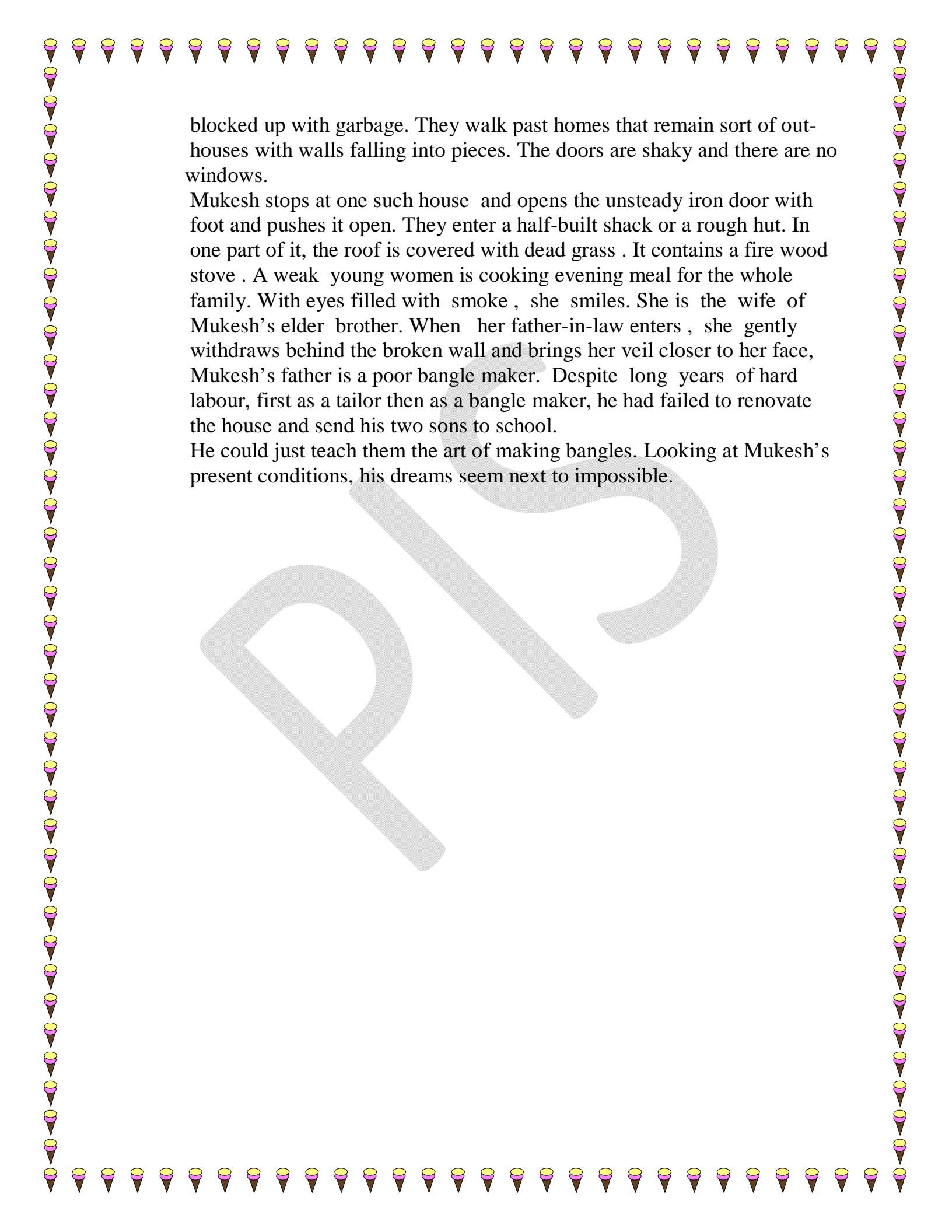
Q II Answer the following questions in 100 to 150 words :

a) **In India we believe in prayers , when ever we are with a problem, we pray God. A son of a priest at Udipi, while going to school, prayed at the temple for a pair of shoes. Thirty years later we find his son well dressed in a school uniform . What has brought about this change – father’s prayer or father having gone to school or both / Give a reasonable answer ?**

Ans : It was indeed the fact that the father had gone to school and received an education because of which gave him opportunities to improve the quality of not only his life but also his family and children. Prayers alone cannot help us. We have to put in our efforts to make things better. The father going to school not only for school shoes but must have also made effort to get himself educated. The result was that he was able to get for his son whatever he could not have for himself.

b) **What does Aneez Jung tell us about life at Mukesh’s home in Firozabad?**

Ans: Mukesh is a boy whose family is engaged in making bangles in Firozabad. But he aspires to be motor mechanic. Mukesh volunteers to take the author to his home. He proudly says that it is being rebuilt. The author along with Mukesh, walks down the stinking lanes which are

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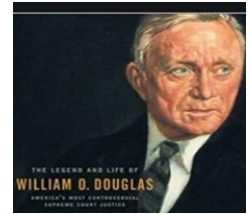
blocked up with garbage. They walk past homes that remain sort of out-houses with walls falling into pieces. The doors are shaky and there are no windows.

Mukesh stops at one such house and opens the unsteady iron door with foot and pushes it open. They enter a half-built shack or a rough hut. In one part of it, the roof is covered with dead grass . It contains a fire wood stove . A weak young women is cooking evening meal for the whole family. With eyes filled with smoke , she smiles. She is the wife of Mukesh's elder brother. When her father-in-law enters , she gently withdraws behind the broken wall and brings her veil closer to her face, Mukesh's father is a poor bangle maker. Despite long years of hard labour, first as a tailor then as a bangle maker, he had failed to renovate the house and send his two sons to school.

He could just teach them the art of making bangles. Looking at Mukesh's present conditions, his dreams seem next to impossible.

L 3 Deep water

By William Douglas



1 Read the given passage and answer the questions

a) It had happened when I was ten or eleven years..... but I subdued my pride and did it.

i) When did the writer decide to learn to swim ?

Ans : The writer decided to learn to swim when he was about ten or eleven years old.

ii) Where did he decide to learn swimming ?

Ans : He decided to learn in a swimming pool at YMCA

iii) His mother warned him against swimming in the Yakima River because many people _____ had drowned there

iv) The author hated to walk naked to the pool as he had

- (a) skinny arms (b) bony chest
(c) skinny legs (d) hairy legs

b) My introduction to the Y.M.C.A swimming pool revived unpleasant memories and stirred childish fears . But in a little while I gathered confidence.....Hi , skinny! How 'd you like to be ducked? ”

i) What got revived in Douglas ' memory at the introduction to the Y.M.C.A swimming pool ?

Ans : the childhood fear of water got revived in the memory of Douglas.

ii) Who was with Douglas when mis- adventure at the YMCA pool happened ?

Ans : Douglas was alone at that time .

iii) the boy who threw Douglas into the pool was about

- a) twenty years old
b) eighteen years old
c) twenty one years old
d) fifteen years old

iv)What was the title given to the boy by Douglas?

Ans : Douglas called him a beautiful physical specimen

2 Answer the following questions in 30 to 40 words

a) Why was the Y.M.C.A pool considered safe to learn swimming ?

Ans: Value points :

- Sadao's education was his father's chief concern
- He was sent to America at the age of 22 to learn all he could learn of surgery and medicine.
- Became an eminent surgeon and scientist
- Perfecting a discovery which would render wounds clean.

Detailed answer

Sadao's father wanted his son to be a doctor. Sadao realised this dream by becoming one of the most known and respectable surgeons of the country . He was also working to perfect a discovery which would render wounds clean. He was so trustworthy as a doctor that the general had not sent him abroad with the troops as he wanted to keep Sadao around for his surgery.

b) What deep meaning did his experience at the YMCA swimming pool have for Douglas ?

Ans : Value points

- There may be danger to old general's life. Might need operation
- Sadao was perfecting a discovery which would render wounds entirely clean.

Detailed answer

Dr Sadao was not sent abroad with troops for two reasons

- 1) He was working on a discovery which would render wounds entirely clean.
- ii) The general was in a condition where he might need an emergency operation. He could only trust Sadao as his surgeon

c) Which two incidents in Douglas ' early life made him scared of water?

Ans: Value points

- American professor and wife were kind hearted
- Anxious to do something for foreign students.
- Professor Harley invited students students to his place
- Sadao found rooms too small

Ans: Sadao had met Hana at an American professor's home. The professor and his wife had been kind people. They wanted to do

something for their few foreign students. Sadao had almost not gone to professor Harley's house that night. But when he went there, he had found Hana, a new student for whom he had developed liking

Q 2 Answer the following questions in about 125-150 words:

a) What mis adventure did Douglas experience at the YMCA swimming pool

Ans : Value points :
Detailed answer

b) Describe the efforts made by Douglas to save himself from drowning in YMCA swimming pool

Ans

c) What was General's plan to get rid of the American prisoner? Was it executed? What traits of the General's character are highlighted in the lesson "The Enemy"

Ans: The General plan to send his private assassins to kill the

American prisoner and to let his body be removed by the professional killers. He told the doctor to keep the window of the soldier's room open so that the assassins had no problem in entering his room and it would look natural also. According to the General, his assassins knew the trick of internal bleeding and no one would doubt the doctor.

No but it was not executed. Actually the general knew that if he would send his assassin to kill the enemy soldier in the doctor's house then, the incident would be open and Dr. Sadao might get arrested on the charge of helping and sheltering an enemy soldier. This would put both the doctor and the General in a fix because there was no other surgeon who could operate upon the General except Dr. Sadao. So he didn't want to put the doctor into trouble. This shows that he was a self centred man who had neither compassionate feelings towards the soldier nor any humanitarianism feelings towards the doctor. All he was concerned about himself.

L 4 The Rat Trap

By Selma Lagerlof



Q1 Answer the following questions in 30-40 words:

a) In what sense was the world a big rat trap according to the peddler?

World was a big rat trap because it was full of temptations . Like a rat trap It offers riches and joys, shelter and food, heat and clothing. When some one was tempted to touch them , it would close on him, and then, everything came to an end.

b) Why did peddler derive pleasure from his idea of the world as a rat trap ?

The peddler derived pleasure from his idea of the world as a rat trap because the world had never accepted him. Everyone had always been unkind to him. He got amused with the idea because he himself had never led a good life and envied others who led a better life than him.

c) How was the peddler received in the cottage?

The peddler knocked at the cottage to ask for shelter for the night . The crofter treated him kindly offered him shelter in his cottage, gave him food. He also played cards with him and smoked tobacco.

d) Why did Edla plead with her father not to send the vagabond away ?

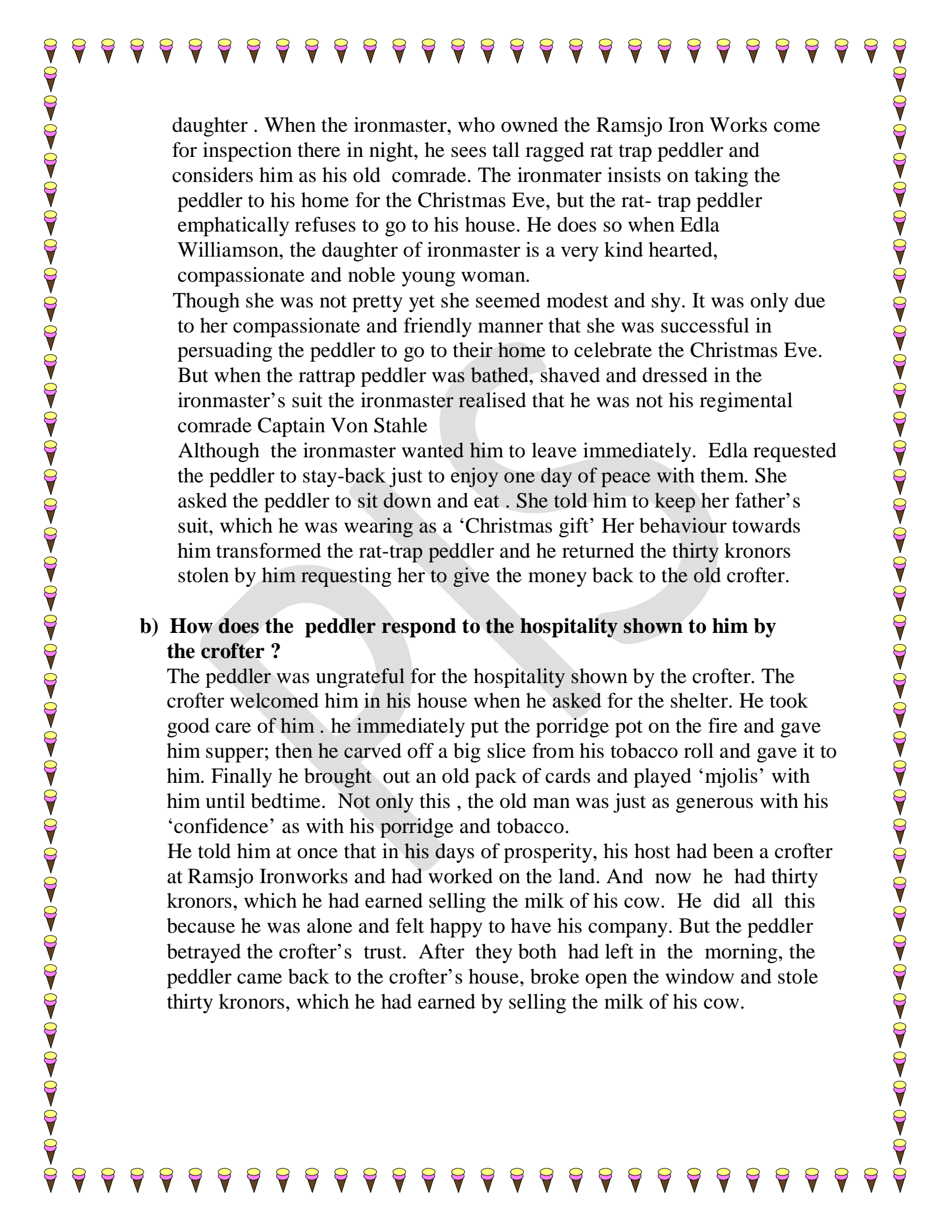
Edla pleaded with her father not to send the vagabond away because she wanted him to stay there for the Christmas celebration. She understood how hard it must have been for him to wander from place to place and being homeless, she wanted him to stay and enjoy at least one day of peace, comfort and solace.

Moreover it was Christmas eve and Edla wanted to keep the spirit of Christmas . She told her father that they had invited him as a guest for Christmas, so they must keep their promise and not turn him away.

Q2 Answer the following questions in 100-150 words :

a) There is a saying, ‘ kindness pays, rudeness never’, In the story, The Rat trap’ Edla’s attitude towards men and matters is different from her father’s attitude. How are the values of concern and compassion brought out in the story, ‘The Rat Trap’?

The ironmaster, father of Edla Williamson is completely different from his



daughter . When the ironmaster, who owned the Ramsjo Iron Works come for inspection there in night, he sees tall ragged rat trap peddler and considers him as his old comrade. The ironmater insists on taking the peddler to his home for the Christmas Eve, but the rat- trap peddler emphatically refuses to go to his house. He does so when Edla Williamson, the daughter of ironmaster is a very kind hearted, compassionate and noble young woman.

Though she was not pretty yet she seemed modest and shy. It was only due to her compassionate and friendly manner that she was successful in persuading the peddler to go to their home to celebrate the Christmas Eve. But when the rattrap peddler was bathed, shaved and dressed in the ironmaster's suit the ironmaster realised that he was not his regimental comrade Captain Von Stahle

Although the ironmaster wanted him to leave immediately. Edla requested the peddler to stay-back just to enjoy one day of peace with them. She asked the peddler to sit down and eat . She told him to keep her father's suit, which he was wearing as a 'Christmas gift' Her behaviour towards him transformed the rat-trap peddler and he returned the thirty kronors stolen by him requesting her to give the money back to the old crofter.

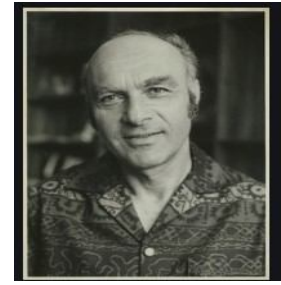
b) How does the peddler respond to the hospitality shown to him by the crofter ?

The peddler was ungrateful for the hospitality shown by the crofter. The crofter welcomed him in his house when he asked for the shelter. He took good care of him . he immediately put the porridge pot on the fire and gave him supper; then he carved off a big slice from his tobacco roll and gave it to him. Finally he brought out an old pack of cards and played 'mjolis' with him until bedtime. Not only this , the old man was just as generous with his 'confidence' as with his porridge and tobacco.

He told him at once that in his days of prosperity, his host had been a crofter at Ramsjo Ironworks and had worked on the land. And now he had thirty kronors, which he had earned selling the milk of his cow. He did all this because he was alone and felt happy to have his company. But the peddler betrayed the crofter's trust. After they both had left in the morning, the peddler came back to the crofter's house, broke open the window and stole thirty kronors, which he had earned by selling the milk of his cow.

L5 Indigo

by Louis Fischer



Q1 Answer the following questions in 30-40 words:

a) How did Rajkumar Shukla establish that he was resolute?

Ans: Rajkumar Shukla the Champaran :

Sharecropper requested Gandhiji at Congress Session in Lucknow

To fix a date to visit Champaran where the share croppers were being subjected to injustice . Till Gandhiji fixed a date to go with him, he did not leave him rather he accompanied him where ever he went .

Gandhiji was impressed by his tenacity and determination and finally agreed to go there from Calcutta.

b) Why did Gandhiji agree to a settlement of mere 25 percent ?

Ans: Gandhiji agreed to a settlement of mere 25 percent compensation from the British because he wanted them to part not only from money but also from their prestige.

c) Why did Gandhiji feel that taking the Champaran case to court was useless?

Ans : Gandhiji went to Champaran to fight the case of the peasant. He collected all the information there and reached a conclusion that it was useless taking the Champaran case to the court. He found that the peasants were getting justice as the case was against the British landlords. He realised that making the peasant free from the fear of British landlords was more important than fighting for them in court.

Q2 Answer the following questions in 100-150 words :

a) Why and how did Rajkumar Shukla persuade Gandhiji to visit Champaran ?

Ans: Rajkumar Shukla was a share cropper from Champaran. He was illiterate but resolute. He had come to congress session to complain about the injustice of the landlord system in Bihar. He wanted for several weeks. Gandhiji to come to Champaran district. He accompanied Gandhiji wherever he went for several weeks . ultimately Gandhiji asked him to meet in Calcutta .on an appointed date and at a fixed spot.

b) Firm determination and resolution, aimed towards the positive track of life, becomes a turning point. Discuss with reference to indigo ?

Ans: Persistent efforts firm determination and resolution lead a man to attain the goal of his life. For this perseverance plays an important role One must never lose the sight of one's goal and keep on moving ahead the with courage and resolution. Rajkumar Shukla , an illiterate peasant, was determined to seek assistance from Gandhiji in the matter of share cropping. He brought the plight of The peasant of Champaran to the notice of Gandhiji . Gandhiji had some other appointments but this did not deter Rajkumar from his resolution and he followed Gandhiji wherever he went. Impressed by his determination, Gandhiji fixed an appointment and kept it also by reaching there on appointed date, He listened to the grievances of the share croppers and started the Civil Disobedience Movement. They came out victorious and the landlords gave back their claims over their estates which reverted back to the farmers. The firm determination of Rajkumar Shukla was a milestone in achieving our independence. It was the beginning of birth of courage and self reliance which , later assisted us to get our freedom.

L 6 POETS AND PANCKAES

by Asokamitran



❖ Answer the following questions in 30 – 40 words:

1) **What does the writer mean by ‘the fiery misery’ of those subject to make-up?**

The make-up room had several incandescent lights. They gave out intense heat. Those who were subjected to make-up had to endure that scorching heat miserably.

2) **What work did the office boy do in the Gemini Studios? Why did he join the Studios? Why was he disappointed?**

Whenever there was a crowd shooting in the Gemini Studios, the office boy mixed paint and slapped it on the crowd players. He had joined the Gemini Studios many years ago. He hoped he would become a star actor or top screen writer, director or lyrics writer. But he remained an office boy. He was disappointed because he felt his talent was going in waste.

3) **Why was the legal adviser referred to as the opposite by the others?**

The legal adviser never helped anybody to solve a legal problem. He created legal problems for others. For example, he ruined the career of a talented actress by his action. When she heard her recorded voice, she felt she had committed a crime.

❖ Answer the following questions in 100 – 120 words:

1) **What do you understand about the author’s literacy inclinations from the account?**

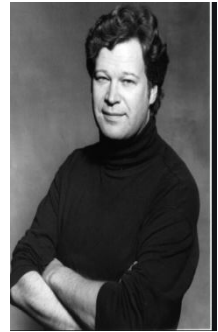
The author’s work in the Gemini Studios was to cut out newspaper clipping on a wide variety of subjects. Naturally his work honed his literacy taste. He was well informed. He must have fairly good knowledge of English literature. He has named quite a few English poets in this account. He must have been sending his prose pieces to different papers and periodicals. He surely sent his entry to a short story contest organised by The Encounter. Even after his retirement, he did not give up reading. He saw a pile of low-priced edition of ‘The God That failed’ and bought a copy. This shows that he had a taste for serious reading.

2) The author has used gentle humour to point out human foibles. Pick out instances of these to show how this serves to make the piece interesting.

There are a number of instance of gentle humour in this piece. Especially the description of the make-up department that consumed truckloads of pancakes is very interesting. The make-up room with mirrors and lights looked like a hair cutting salon. The make-up department was a symbol of national integration because there was a gang of people from different parts of India. This gang of nationally integrated make-up men could turn any decent looking person into a hideous crimson hued monster. There was a strict hierarchy in the make-up department in the task of making actors ugly. There was an office boy. He had joined the Studios years ago in the hope of becoming a star actor, or a top screen writer, director or lyrics writer. He came to the author to enlightenment him how great literary talent was being wasted. But the author prayed for crowd, shooting all the time to get rid of genius of a bore.

L 7 “THE INTERVIEW”

by Christopher Silvester and Umberto Eco



❖ Answer the following questions in 30 – 40 words:

1) What are some of the positive views on interviews?

The interview is a source of truth. These days, we get the most vivid impressions of our contemporaries through interviews. Interview is a supremely serviceable medium of communication.

2) Did Umberto Eco considered himself a novelist first or an academic scholar?

Umberto Eco considered himself an academic scholar first. He identified himself with the academic community. He participated in academic conferences, but did not attend writers’ meetings. In his own words, he was a university professor who wrote novels on Sundays.

3) What is the reason for the huge success of the novel, *The Name of the Rose*?

The Name of the Rose is a very serious novel. At one level, it is a detective story. At the other level, it also delves deep into mythology and metaphysics. It is set in a period of medieval history. Of course, there are people who like serious reading material. Yet the huge popularity of the novel remains a mystery. Perhaps the time of its publication was favourable.

❖ Answer the following questions in 100 – 120 words:

1) Every famous person has a right to his or her privacy. Interviewers sometimes embarrass celebrities with very personal questions.

Interviewers want to present exclusive and intimate details about the famous person they are interviewing. Some interviewers focus on the public life and achievements of the individual only. They try to be objective in their approach as well as assessment. However, there are others who want to make their interviews spicier and usually cross the thin limit of privacy of the individual. In their zeal to present good copy, they embarrass the famous person with the personal questions. Sometimes impact of such questions on famous person reveals his/her aversion as well as irritation at the silliness of the person. If they shout, they are accused of being rude and proud and if they keep mum they are labelled as arrogant. In my opinion privacy of an individual must be respected.

L 8 Going Places

by AR Barton



Q1 Answer the following questions in 30-40 words:

a) What do you think of Sophie's dream about her career?

Ans: Sophie had unrealistic dreams about her career. They were unrealistic because she had neither the money nor the talent to start a boutique and she considered herself to be a natural manager.

b) Whom did Sophie like more than anyone in the story? Why?

Ans: Sophie liked her brother more than anyone else in the family. He was a quiet person who stayed in his own world. She was intrigued by his silence. She wanted him to share things with her. She wanted to know where he went and what he did.

c) Why is Sophie attracted to Danny Casey?

Ans: Sophie was attracted to Danny Casey because he was a famous young Irish football player and her family was fond of watching football matches. He was a hero who was worshipped by a young adolescent girl.

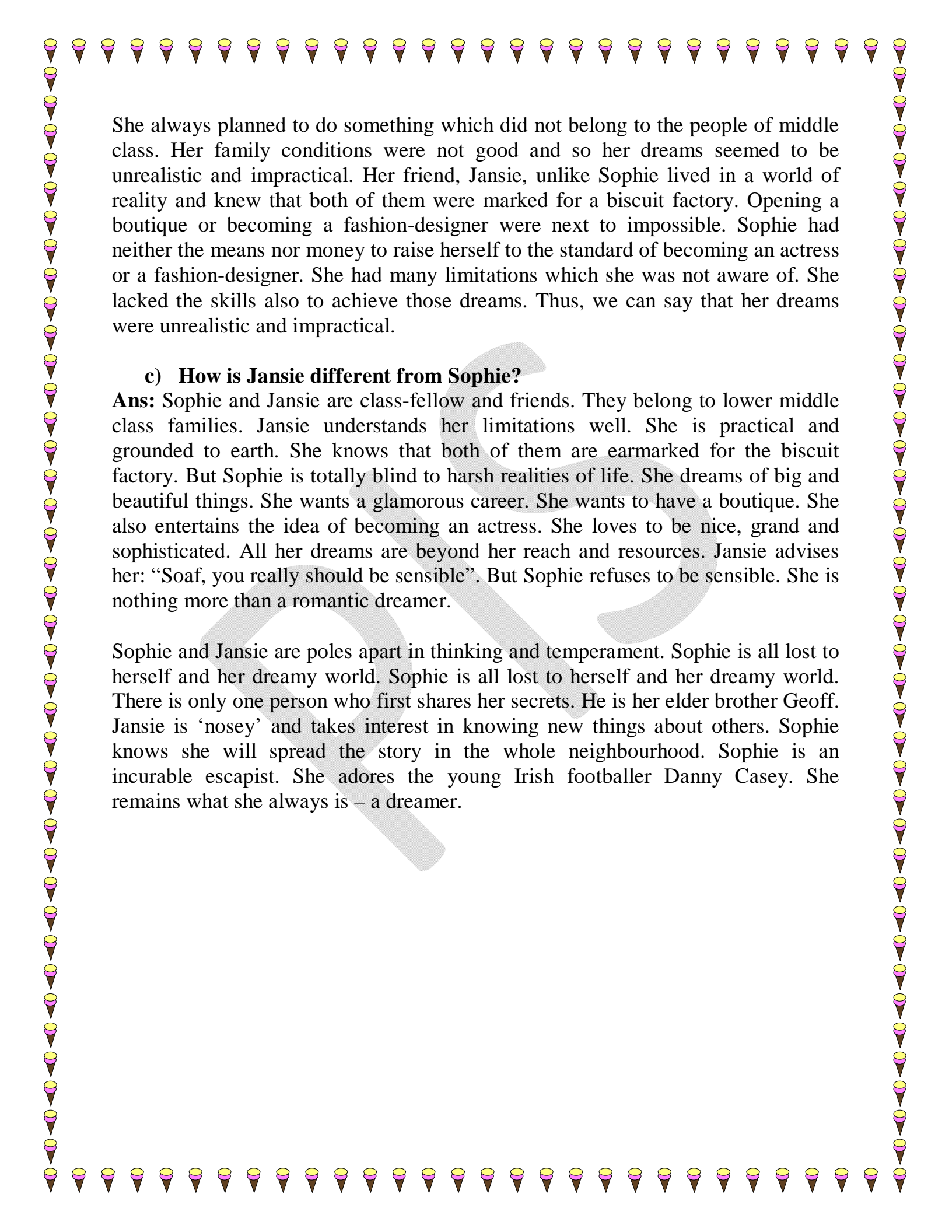
Q2 Answer the following questions in 100-150 words:

a) Has Sophie met Danny Casey? What details of her meeting with Danny Casey did she narrate to her brother?

Ans: Sophie was a teenager who liked to live in the world of fantasy. She always imagined herself as belonging to high class family. So she imagined that she had met Danny Casey. She liked this idea and narrated the whole incident to her brother Geoff. She told him that she had gone there for window-shopping. She had asked him for his autograph for Derek, her younger brother, which he agreed to but she could not get it as neither Danny Casey nor Sophie had a pen or a paper. So, Danny Casey had promised to give her the autograph if she would meet him the next week.

b) Every teenager must dream big. Yet the dream should also be rooted to the ground. Write a character sketch of Sophie in the light of this aspect.

Ans: Sophie was a teenager who day-dreamt most of the time. Her dreams were to open a boutique or to become a fashion-designer. She wanted to be an actress too.



She always planned to do something which did not belong to the people of middle class. Her family conditions were not good and so her dreams seemed to be unrealistic and impractical. Her friend, Jansie, unlike Sophie lived in a world of reality and knew that both of them were marked for a biscuit factory. Opening a boutique or becoming a fashion-designer were next to impossible. Sophie had neither the means nor money to raise herself to the standard of becoming an actress or a fashion-designer. She had many limitations which she was not aware of. She lacked the skills also to achieve those dreams. Thus, we can say that her dreams were unrealistic and impractical.

c) How is Jansie different from Sophie?

Ans: Sophie and Jansie are class-fellow and friends. They belong to lower middle class families. Jansie understands her limitations well. She is practical and grounded to earth. She knows that both of them are earmarked for the biscuit factory. But Sophie is totally blind to harsh realities of life. She dreams of big and beautiful things. She wants a glamorous career. She wants to have a boutique. She also entertains the idea of becoming an actress. She loves to be nice, grand and sophisticated. All her dreams are beyond her reach and resources. Jansie advises her: “Soaf, you really should be sensible”. But Sophie refuses to be sensible. She is nothing more than a romantic dreamer.

Sophie and Jansie are poles apart in thinking and temperament. Sophie is all lost to herself and her dreamy world. There is only one person who first shares her secrets. He is her elder brother Geoff. Jansie is ‘nosey’ and takes interest in knowing new things about others. Sophie knows she will spread the story in the whole neighbourhood. Sophie is an incurable escapist. She adores the young Irish footballer Danny Casey. She remains what she always is – a dreamer.

MY MOTHER AT SIXTY SIX

By Kamla Das



Word- meanings

Sprinting = Running

Corpse = Dead body

Q1 Answer the following extract based questions :

a) Read the following lines and answer the questions that follows:

..... I saw my mother,
beside me ,
doze , open mouthed , her face
ashen like that
of a corpse and realised with
pain.....

a) who is 'I' ?

Ans: Poet Kamla Das / poets / narrator / daughter

I here is Kamla das the poetess.

b) What did I realise with pain?

Ans : Realised with pain that mother nearing old age/ mom's death

Separation from mother

DA she realised with pain that her mother had grown old. She feared that
Her mother would not live long.

c) Why was realisation painful?

Ans : Value points

- Mother's approaching death was a hard fact for her to accept.
 - Thought of separation from her mother made the poet sad
- DA :The realisation was painful because with it came the thought that
She might not live for a very long time.

• d) Identify and name the figure of speech used in these lines.

Ans : Value points

■ simile

■ ' ashen like that of a corpse'

b) Old familiar ache , my childhood's fear ,

but all I said was see you soon,

Amma , all I did was smile and smile and smile.....

a) What does the phrase , familiar ache mean ?

Ans : pain, fear / pain that mother was growing old / fear of separation .

DA : It means that the sight of her mother revived the poet's old, childhood fear / pain of being separated from her old and sick mother due to her aging and death.

b) What was the poet's childhood fear ?

Ans : her mother would get old / die / final separation from mother.

DA : Her childhood fear was of being separated from her mother.

c) What do the first two lines tell us about the poet's feelings for her mother?

Ans : Loved her / pained at seeing her mother growing old / fear of losing her mother.

Detailed answer :

The first two lines tells us that she wanted to console herself with the thought that her mother would be fine and she would meet her the next time as she was pained to see the mother growing old.

d) What does the repeated use of the word 'smile ' mean?

Ans: Value points Hides her feelings from her mother / reassures herself that mother will be fine

Detailed answer:

The repeated use of the word 'smile' shows that in spite of her fear , the poetess tried to keep a cheerful look to hide her feelings from her mother.

Q 2 Answer the following questions in 30 to 40 words:

a) How are the young trees described as ' sprinting' ?

Ans: The young trees running spiritedly in the opposite direction stand in sharp contrast to the poetess's aged and pale looking mother. The trees symbolizes youth and life, where as old mother represents old age and is moving towards the grave. They symbolize the quick passage of time that has brought old age to her.

b) Why has the mother been compared to the late winter moon ' ?

Ans: The mother has been compared to the ' late winter moon ' because she has become pale like the moon in the winter. She is dull and lifeless.

c) **What is the significance of parting words of the poetess and her smile in 'My Mother At the Age Of Sixty-six' ?**

Ans : Value points :

- Optimism
- A hope to see her mother again
- Reassuring her mother
- Hiding her anxiety and fear
- Emotions hidden behind the smile
- True feeling of lose and pain of separation

Detailed answer:

The poetess's parting words signify hope and a promise of meeting her mother again . She wants to leave a smiling face behind for her mother, so as not to let her mother know about her feeling and emotions towards her.

Q 3 Answer the following questions in 100 to 150 words

a) **Give the theme of ' Kamla Das' poem 'My Mother at Sixty-six'**

Ans : The mother of the poetess is not very old . She is sixty-six .But due to her illness or so she looked pale and ash coloured like a dead body.

The poetess is in a hurry to catch her flight. She is deeply conserved about Her aged mother. She is not sure that she will find

b) **What are the main ideas combined in the poem 'My Mother at Sixty-six'**

Ans : In this poem the poetess specifies how her mother looks at the age of sixty-six She also spells her pain on seeing her in such a deteriorating condition. It was the morning of her last Friday at home when she looked at her mother while driving to the airport. The poetess was not only pained but shocked to see her sleeping with her mouth open. She became all the more troubled when she looked pale , shrunken and weathered like a corpse . To distract herself from this thought of pain and trouble , she looked outside and saw young trees and children . She realised in them life, vigour and vitality.

Then at the airport's security check. The same kind oldness was visible on her pale body. She compared her to the late winter's moon and realised that it was due to old age. The poetess smile at her to see her again and took leave of her. The poem exemplified the pain inflicted by old age and separation

Poetic devices :

Simile

“..... face ashen like that of a corpse
..... pale as a late

Personification

“ Young trees sprinting “

Metaphor

“ merry children spilling out”

Irony

The green trees racing (inanimate) while the mother like a corpse ”

Contrast

“ The world replete with activity contrasted with the near lifeless mother”

Tautology

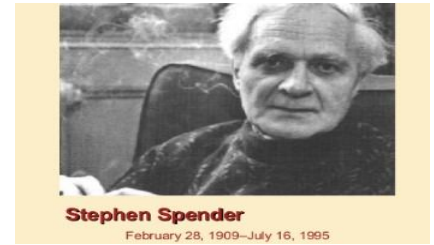
“ I looked at her again at her , wan, pale”

Repetition

“Smile and smile and smile.....”

L 2 AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CLASSROOM IN A SLUM

Stephen Spender



Q1 Read the given extract and answer the question that follows:

**A] Far far from gusty waves these children's fatless weeds,
Like rootless weeds the hair torn round their pallor,
The tall girl with her weighed-down head.**

a) Who are these children?

Ans: These children are from deprived and poor sections of the society.

b) What has possibly weighed –down the tall girl's head?

Ans: The tall girl is probably undernourished as well as unconfident.

c) Which is the figure of speech used in the first two lines?

Ans: Simile (like rootless weeds) and Alliteration (far from)

d) What does the word 'pallor' mean?

Ans: The word 'pallor' means 'unhealthy pale faces'.

B] At back of the dim class

**One un-noted, sweet and young, his eyes live in a dream
Of squirrel's game, in tree room, other than this,**

a) Why was the class dim?

Ans: The class is dim because it is a classroom in slum, which is not well-lit or maintained properly.

b) What was he doing?

Ans: The young child is different as he does not seem burdened by the poverty around him, while the other children. He seems happy and his eyes are hopeful of a better world.

c) How is the young child different from others?

Ans: The young child is not paying attention in class. Instead, he is looking out, watching a squirrel play, and wishing he too was out.

d) **What is a tree room?**

Ans: A tree room is a small hole in the tree in which the squirrel may live or play.

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

1) **How is the atmosphere inside an elementary slum classroom different from the one outside it?**

The children sitting inside the elementary classroom are sick and under-nourished. The atmosphere and surroundings are pale and morose. The world outside is filled with beauty and luxuries.

2) **How does the poem, ‘An Elementary School: Classroom in a Slum’ portray the children?**

The poem portrays the children in a very pathetic manner. They are undernourished and diseased. The poet compares their unkempt and dull hair to rootless weeds. One of the girls is sitting with her head weighed down probably burdened with the miseries of poverty. A boy had inherited his father’s diseases and another was sitting unnoticed with a yearning to play outside.

3) **To whom does the poet in the poem “An Elementary School Classroom in a Slum” make an appeal? What is his appeal?**

The poet makes an appeal to the governor, inspector and visitors. He appeals to them to come to the rescue of the slum children, to take them out of the slum and show them the outside world and save them from their miserable condition.

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

1) **What message does Stephen Spender convey through the poem?**

The theme of Spender’s poem is to highlight the plight of the slum children. Their dark homes and neglected schools are like tombs for them. They are

far away from the sunshine of knowledge and a normal civilised life. They need to be removed from their unhealthy surroundings. The poem reflects the rage of the poet against the sub-human conditions of millions of slum children.



Poem 3 Keeping Quiet

By Pablo Neruda



Q1. Answer the following extract based questions:

a) Now we will count to twelve
and we will all keep still

For once on the face of the Earth
let's not speak any language, let's stop for one second,
and not move our arms so much

i) What is the significance of number twelve?

Twelve is an extended counting. Counting till twelve will give one, time to slow down one's thoughts, and prepare oneself for introspection.

ii) Which two activities does the poet want us to stop?

The poet wants us to stop talking and stop moving our arms

iii) What does the poet mean by 'Let's not speak in any language'?

By this the poet means not to speak in any language and be silent. Hence, this sudden silence would give us an opportunity to introspect. Since we would not speak for a while, barriers between communities would break and a sense of brotherhood will prevail.

b) 'it would be an exotic moment
without rush, without engines,
we would all be together
in a sudden strangeness

i) Which exotic moment is referred to in these lines ?

The poet refers to the moment when everyone would be quiet and still.

ii) Why would that moment be strange ?

That moment would be strange because we have never experienced such moments of quietness and peace earlier.

iii) What does the poet advocate in the poem?

The poet advocates that from time to time one should introspect.

iv) What does the poet mean by the word, 'engines' ?

By 'engines', the poet means noises, born inside us of an outside world.

Q2. Answer the following questions in 30-40 words:

a) Which is the exotic moment that the poet refers to in ' Keeping Quiet'.

The exotic moment referred to in ' Keeping Quiet' is the moment when everyone will introspect and will get time to look into one's inner self. There will be a feeling of mutual understanding and a feeling of oneness in a different way, thus, taking a break from violence and war.

b) Why does one feel 'a sudden strangeness' in counting to twelve and keeping quiet ?

By eliminating once ego, one finds room for all the rest of the people in the world. When one starts feeling this togetherness, this new relation will be a new 'strange' experience.

c) ' Life is what it is about.....' How is keeping quiet related to life ?

'Keeping Quiet' is related to life, we need to pause for a moment and introspect. It is only when we introspect, that we realise the consequences of our actions and are able to correct them. Introspection will help us all live in peace and harmony and also understand ourselves. It will help us when we are sad so that we don't threaten ourselves with death. Keeping quiet will nurture good thoughts within us just like Mother Earth.

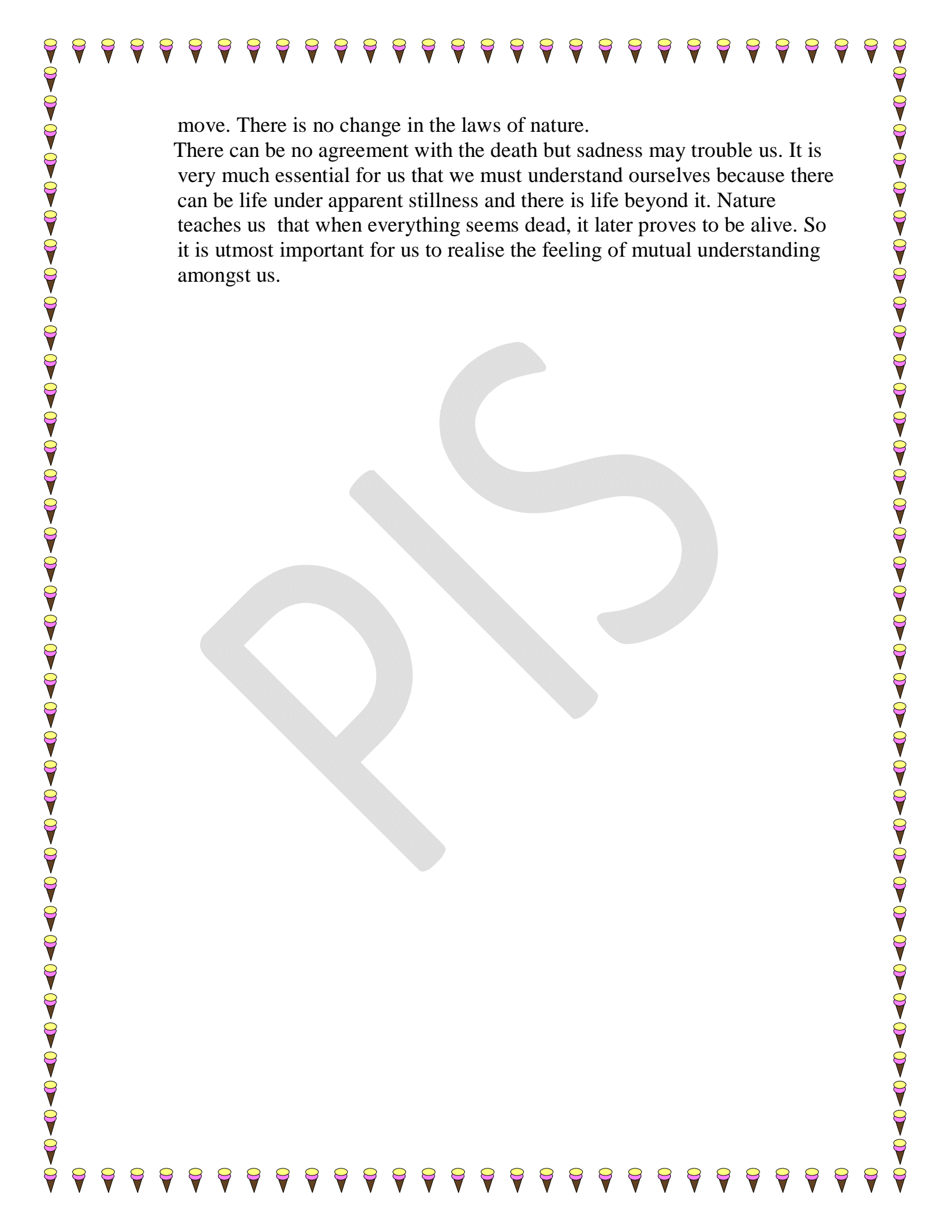
d) Which sadness is Pablo Neruda referring to ?

The sadness that Pablo Neruda refers to is the sadness of not knowing ourselves . In the race to live our lives, we forget to stop and ponder what is it that we actually need and that leads to sadness.

Q3. Answer the following questions in 100-150 words :

a) Write the summary of the poem " Keeping Quiet".

Pablo Neruda emphasizes the unique and as well as universal impact of having a sense of togetherness along with the need for introspection for mutual understanding. In this respect he is of the opinion to bring total inactivity amongst all the people. They may realise some strangeness and enjoy the exotic moments in their lives. So he urges people of all languages to stop speaking and the fishermen are asked to stop harming the whales. Those who advocate deadly weapons to destruct the humanity, have been requested to stop and save humanity. He says that we should not confuse his theory with total inactivity. Life will go on moving as it is to



move. There is no change in the laws of nature.
There can be no agreement with the death but sadness may trouble us. It is very much essential for us that we must understand ourselves because there can be life under apparent stillness and there is life beyond it. Nature teaches us that when everything seems dead, it later proves to be alive. So it is utmost important for us to realise the feeling of mutual understanding amongst us.

PS

Poem 4 A Thing Of Beauty

By John Keats



Q1. Answer the following extract based questions:

a) “ A thing of beauty is joy for ever

Its loveliness increases, it will never pass into
Nothingness; but will keep

a “bower quiet for us”.

i) ‘A thing of beauty is joy forever’ explain.

Beauty has long lasting impact on us. It never moves into emptiness. It leaves a lasting impression and always rescues us from our miseries.

ii) Why does a beautiful thing never ‘pass into nothingness’?

Beauty has a long standing impression on us. It is not subject to time.

It will continue for ever

iii) What does the poet mean by ‘a bower quiet for us’ ?

A bower means a shady place for us to ponder and dream.

iv) Whose loveliness keep on increasing?

Loveliness of beautiful things will keep on increasing.

b) “Therefore, on every morrow, are we wreathing
a flowery band to bind us to the earth,
spite of despondence of the inhuman dearth of
noble natures , of the gloomy days.

Of all the unhealthy and over- darkened ways.

Made for our searching”.

i) What for do we wreath a garland of flowers every morning?

We weave a garland of flowers every morning to bind us to the beauties of the earth. Man and nature are inseparable. Every morning, fresh flowers refresh our eyes and we celebrate the day by making a garland.

ii) What makes human beings live life inspite of all sufferings?

Objects of beauty , some noble deed and some powerful narratives

Remove our tensions and sadness.

iii) What are the things that cause pain and the sufferings?

The ingratitude and wickedness of man , the misfortunes and the

disease cause us mental and physical sufferings.

iv) Explain: Over-darkened ways made for our searching.

It refers to sorrow , grief and physical pain which are there to test a man's stigma.

Q2. Answer the following questions in 30-40 words:

a) What makes human beings love life inspite of troubles and sufferings?

No doubt, that there are things in life that cause suffering and pain like despondence, death of noble people, gloomy days and over darkened ways. It is at such times, that objects of beauty, some noble deeds , some powerful narratives remove our tension and sadness and we learn to love life.

b) Which objects of nature does Keats mention as sources of joy in his poem, 'A Thing Of Beauty'

Keats mention the sun , the moon , the trees, flowers and clear rills as things of beauty.

c) Why is 'grandeur' associated with the 'mighty dead'?

Grandeur is associated with the mighty dead because the poet refers to the great tragic plays written by the great playwrights. We admire and worship our heroes and even the fall of our great heroes is described, as gloriously, as their lives. These stories inspire us to lead our lives and overcome our misery.

d) What does Keats consider as an endless fountain of immortal drink and why does he call it, immortal drink ?

Keats considers nature as an endless fountain of immortal drink. He calls it immortal because a man can get rest, relief and power in the company of nature and an endless beauty is hidden in her varied spices.

Q3. Answer the following questions in 100-150 words :

a) Write the sum and the substance of the poem : 'A Thing Of Beauty'

On having a vision of moon, Goddess Cynthia, a young shepherd Endymion, resolved , to seek her because a thing of beauty is a joy for ever. It never passes into nothingness but helps us in having sweet dreams and healthy breaths. Our life is the sum total of both happiness and pain. Vices like spite, ill will, jealousy and cruelty overpower us but the beauty washes away this dark curtain. The natural objects like the sun, the moon, the trees, daffodils, the rose flowers and the rills spread their fairness, fragrance and beauty over all. During the scorching heat of the season , , we have divine nature to soothe us.

L5 Aunt Jennifer's Tigers by Adrienne Rich



Q1 Answer the following extract based questions :

- a) Aunt Jennifer's tigers prance across a screen,
Bright Topaz denizens of a world of green.
They do not fear the men beneath the tree;
They pace in sleek chivalric certainty.

i) Why are the tigers called 'Aunt Jennifer's tigers' ?

Ans: They are called Aunt Jennifer's tigers because it is she who is embroidering them and they are a reflection of her suppressed wishes.

ii) What does the phrase, 'a world of green' mean?

Ans : "A world of green" means forest

iii) How are the tigers different from their creator?

Ans: The tigers are different from their creator because they are strong, free and confident while their creator is weak and fearful.

iv) Why are tigers not afraid of the men beneath the tree ?

Ans: The tigers are not afraid of men beneath the tree because they are powerful and strong.

- b) Bright topaz denizens of a world of green.
They do not fear the men beneath the tree;
They pace in sleek chivalric certainty.

i) How are Aunt Jennifer's tigers described ?

Ans : Aunt Jennifer's tigers have been described as golden yellow in colour . They are bold and fearless.

ii) Who are they and where are they ?

Ans: " They refer to the tigers which aunt Jennifer made with wool. They are in the scenery that aunt Jennifer made with wool.

iii) Why are they not afraid of men ?

Ans. They i.e. tigers are not afraid of men as they are strong and

powerful in their natural habitat, where they dominate.

iv) Why are they described as denizens of a world of green ?

Ans: They have been described as denizens of a world of green because they live in dense green forest.

Q2 Answer the following questions in 30-40 words :

a) Why do you think Aunt Jennifer created animals that are so different from her own character?

Ans: Aunt Jennifer's tigers were different from her because she herself was a timid lady whereas her tigers were symbolic of bravery, courage and fearlessness. They stand for power, strength and confidence which she lacks in herself.

Aunt Jennifer created animals, i.e., tigers which were very different from her own docile character because they represented the fearlessness and freedom which she was deprived of. They also represent her secret longing to live a brave and fearless life like them.

b) How does Aunt Jennifer express her bitterness and anger against male domination ?

Ans : Aunt Jennifer expresses her bitterness through her art by knitting tigers on the panel which symbolises freedom, strength and chivalry.

c) How do words, 'denizens' and 'chivalic' add to our understanding of Aunt Jennifer's tigers ?

Ans: Tigers live in forests as free as air. They are known for their strength and fearlessness. These two words 'denizens' and 'chivalic' reveal the true status and attitudes of these wild cats.

Q3 Answer the following questions in 100-140 words :

a) Write the sum and the substance of the poem "Aunt Jennifer"?

Ans: This poem is based on the points showing bravery and facing the ordeals like a knight. We should be courageous enough to face our troubles. Aunt Jennifer has created tigers that are different from her character. They are roaming boldly in the forest without caring for men. They step their with chivalric certainty. The massive weight of Uncle's wedding band is hard to bear by Aunt Jennifer. Her fingers are moving through her wool and she is tormented as well as her mind is troubled very much. Her hands are terrified and are only ringed with ordeals which she has mastered. Even

then the tigers which have been created in her panel are stepping proudly and unafraid.

b) What is the role played by the tigers in the poem “Aunt Jennifer?”

Ans:In this poem tigers are symbol of bravery, fearlessness and self confidence. Aunt Jennifer is a timid woman who could never stand up boldly against her tyrant husband. She too wished to be as fierce, strong and free as the tigers. The tigers roam fearlessly in the forest just like knights. Being the inhabitants of the forests, they are accustomed to their surroundings. They have no fear of the people sitting under the tree. Aunt Jennifer expresses her heart-felt resentment through the tigers. The tigers stand for all that she longs for. It is ironic that she will be living a life in awe of her husband, fearful all through her life, while the tigers she has embroidered on the panel, will outlive bluntly, confidently and intrepidly proclaiming their freedom.

SUPPLEMENTARY

L 1 The Third Level

by Jack Finney



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

A) Do you think that the third level was a medium of escape for Charley? Why?

Yes, I think the third level was a medium of escape for Charley. He had a strange day-dream wish to escape from his present worries. He wanted to escape into the past. He believed that in the old days, life was peaceful. People in his grandfather's time lived a carefree life. All those charms were lost. The present day world is full of worries, wars, tension and haste. Charley was always lost in his own thoughts. He was unaware of his surroundings. One day he found himself in the lobby of the Roosevelt Hotel and some other time he came up in an office building. Another day, he reached the third level.

1) What did the psychiatrist think when Charley told him about the third level?

There were only two levels at the Grand Central Station. When Charley told the psychiatrist that he had been to the third level, he believed that Charley was day-dreaming. He was trying to escape from the worries and tensions of the present day world.

2) 'The modern world is full of insecurity, fear, war, worry and stress'. What are the ways in which we attempt to overcome them?

The past has always been alluring. Men always believe that the past was pleasant, without haste and worries. People lived carefree lives. So, we try to escape from the present realities to the imaginary past. We do so in different ways. But it is our imagination that plays the major role. We write or read charming stories about the past. Sometimes we read stories of love and adventure. Some people pursue some hobbies like music, stamp collecting, painting, reading religious scriptures.

❖ **Answer the following question in 100 – 120 words:**

1) Philately helps in keeping the past alive. Discuss other ways in which this is done. What do you think of human tendency to constantly move between the past, the present and the future?

➤ Man has always been interested in the past. He looks back and is eager to know how life was like in old times. Not only the past of mankind, but even the distant past of the earth is alluring. Scientists spend fortunes and precious years of their lives to look for fossils to reconstruct the conditions under which those extinct animals lived. Pyramids are ransacked to learn about pharaohs and their times. We preserve ancient monuments to keep the past alive. Our history books tell us about lost civilisations. Coins, pottery, artifacts, statues, temples and other things tell us about the past. These are preserved and displayed in museums. Man is seldom satisfied with the present. So, he looks 'before and after'.

2) **Do you see an intersection of time and space in the story?**

➤ Imagination of people like H. G. Wells ran riot. He believed that it was possible to travel in time as we can travel in space. He thought that a machine could be invented that could carry us back into the past or the future. If we went into the past, we would find the place different from what it looks like today. Sam, for example, travelled to Galesburg which was not like as it is today but as it was in 1890s. Similarly, when Charley reached the third level, everything was as it was in 1894. The ticket-booth, the men there, people with sideburns, women dressed in old fashioned garments, the naked flames and even the currency notes were of 1894. There is indeed an intersection of time and space.



L 2 The Tiger King

By Kalki



Q 1 Answer the following questions in 30-40 words

a) How did the ten –day-old baby (the future tiger king) react to the prediction about his future made by the astrologers ?

Ans: Upon hearing the prediction of the chief astrologer, the ten day old Jilani Jung Bahadur spoke very clearly and said that there was nothing new in that, all those who were born, would have to die one day. They didn't require the prediction of the astrologers for that. He did not quake with fear. Rather, he asked the astrologer to tell the manner of his death. When the astrologer told that he would be killed by the hundredth tiger, the baby growled and said "Let the tigers beware!"

b) From that day onwards it was Value points

- Said all those who are born will one day have to die.
- They did not require the predictions of the astrologers for that.
- It would be some sense if the astrologers could tell the manner of that death.
- Said let Tigers beware.

Detailed answer : The chief astrologer said that the prince was born in the hour of the bull and the tigers were enemies. So his death would come from a tiger . Then a great miracle took place .The ten day old Jilani Jung Bahadur spoke very clearly and said that there was nothing new in that, all those who were born , would have to die one day. They did not require the predictions of the astrologers for that and it would be better if they could tell the manner of his death.

2) From that day on wards celebration time for all tigers inhibiting 'Pratibandapuram'? Bring out the irony in this statement.

Ans ; Value points

- Celebration because the state banned hunting by everyone. that he kills 100 tigers
- Ironical only the Maharaja could still hunt so as to ensures
- So there death is inevitable yet they are celebrating.

Detailed answer: King Jung Bahadur decided to kill a hundred tigers so he banned the hunting of tigers by anyone else except him. Though it was the

celebration time for all tigers inhabiting Pratibandapuram yet it was ironical because the Maharaja himself could still hunt them. He had not barred himself from it. Their death was inevitable as the Maharaja was on the lookout for them. In spite of this they were celebrating.

c) How did the Tiger's Dewan prove to be resourceful ?

Ans : After the tiger king could not find the 100th Tiger to kill, he was Angry and threatened to remove his Dewan from his job. The Diwan brought an old tiger from a people's park in Madras and hid it in his house. Next day he took the tiger to the forest to be killed by the king .

Q 2 Answer the following questions in about 125-150 words:

a) Why did the Tiger king wished to hunt 100 tigers ? How far was he able to fulfill his wish ?

Ans When the tiger King was born, an astrologer had proclaimed that since he was born in the hour of the 'bull' , a tiger would kill him. Thus, the king decided he would kill all the tigers and prove the astrologer wrong. The astrologer also said that if Maharaja killed 100 tigers, then he would burn all his books. The king was able to kill 99 tigers but it was 100th tiger which proved to be his end. The king was able to wound him but could not kill it. Then, on the third birthday of the Maharaja's son. He decided to gift him a wooden tiger. While playing with it , the Maharaja's hand got pierced. The next day infection flared up resulting in a suppurated sore and in the process he died

b) How did the tiger King stand in danger of losing his kingdom? How was he able to avert the danger ?

Ans : Value points

The tiger king annoyed a high ranking British officer by refusing to allow him to kill tigers in his province.

Did not even allow him to get himself photographed with the tiger killed by the king.

Prevented a British officer from full filling his desire, so stood in danger of losing his kingdom

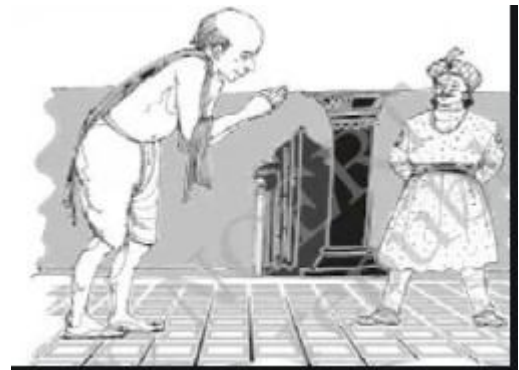
Averted the danger by sending a gift of fifty diamond rings (to chose one or two from) to British officer's wife

Detailed Answer

The tiger king was in danger of losing his kingdom when a high

ranking British officer visited Pratibandpuram and expressed his desire to kill a tiger. He was very fond of hunting tigers and fond of being photographed with the Tiger he had shot. But the maharaja was firm in his resolve and refused permission. The officer sent a word that he simply wanted a photograph of himself holding a gun beside the tiger's dead body. The maharaja did not agree even to that. Since maharaja had prevented a British Officer from fulfilling his desired, he stood in danger of losing his kingdom.

The Maharaja and the Dewan thought over the problem. They asked a Famous British company of jewellers in Calcutta to send samples of Diamond rings. They received fifty rings. . The Maharaja sent all the rings to the British officer's lady. She kept them all and send a word of thanks. In two days a bill for three lakh of a rupee came from the British jewellers. The Maharaja was happy that though he had lost three lakh rupees he still managed to retain his kingdom.





L 3 Journey To The End Of The Earth

By Tishani Doshi

Q 1 Answer the following questions in 30-40 words

a) How do geographical phenomena help us to know about the history of Mankind ?

Ans: By watching geographical phenomena we can imagine how small changes could have caused a big change over centuries. They help us to understand where we came from and where we might be heading.

b) Why is Antarctica the place to go to understand the earth's past, present and future?

Ans : Antarctica is the only place on earth that has not supported human population. So it remains almost as pure as it used to be millions of years ago. There we can observe how a little a change can affect the environment . Besides , half-a –million year old carbon records lie trapped in its layers of ice. So , if we want to study the earth's past present and future, Antarctica is the right place.

c) What was Gondwana like ? How did it change ?

Ans: Gondwana was a super continent about 650 million years ago. The climate was warm and there were many species of flora and fauna. There were no human beings. About a million years ago it disintegrated into separate countries.

Q 2 Answer the following questions in 125-150 words:

a) What are Geoff Green's reasons for including high school students in " students on Ice " expedition ?

Ans: Human civilization on earth is only 12000 years old. But during this short period , man has created much confusion here. He has built towns and cities. He has wiped out species to snatch limited resources of this earth for his ever increasing population . By burning fossil fuels, he has created blanket of carbon dioxide around the world . This is slowly but surely increasing the global temperature. Today climate change is the most hotly debated topic. Geoff Green has included students in his expedition to provide them inspiring educational opportunities. Students are the policy makers of tomorrow. They are at an age when they are ready to learn and act. They have the idealism that the old lack.

**b) Take care of small things and the big things will take care themselves”
What Is the relevance of this statement in the context of the Antarctic environment?**

Ans : Phytoplankton are microscopic single-celled grasses. They synthesize organic compounds using the energy of the sun. These very tiny grasses sustain the entire food chain in the southern oceans. Scientists tell us that any further depletion of ozone layer will have a bad effect on the activity of these single celled plants.

In turn , the whole food chain will be disrupted. That will endanger the lives of all sea creatures as well as birds in this region. So if we take care of phytoplankton or the ozone layer , everything will take care of itself

L 4 The Enemy

By Pearl S Buck



Q 1 Answer the following questions in 30-40 words

a) What was Sadao's father dream for him ? How did Sadao realise it?

Ans: Value points :

- Sadao's education was his father's chief concern
- He was sent to America at the age of 22 to learn all he could learn of surgery and medicine.
- Became an eminent surgeon and scientist
- Perfecting a discovery which would render wounds clean.

Detailed answer

Sadao's father wanted his son to be a doctor. Sadao realised this dream by becoming one of the most known and respectable surgeons of the country . He was also working to perfect a discovery which would render wounds clean. He was so trustworthy as a doctor that the general had not sent him abroad with the troops as he wanted to keep Sadao around for his surgery.

b) Why was Sadao not sent abroad along with troops?

Ans : Value points

- There may be danger to old general's life. Might need operation
- Sadao was perfecting a discovery which would render wounds entirely clean.

Detailed answer

Dr Sadao was not sent abroad with troops for two reasons

- 1) He was working on a discovery which would render wounds entirely clean.
- ii) The general was in a condition where he might need an emergency operation. He could only trust Sadao as his surgeon

c) What role did American play in bringing Hana and Sadao together?

Ans: Value points

- American professor and wife were kind hearted
- Anxious to do something for foreign students.
- Professor Harley invited students students to his place
- Sadao found rooms too small

Ans: Sadao had met Hana at an American professor's home. The professor and his wife had been kind people. They wanted to do something for their few foreign students. Sadao had almost not gone to professor Harley's house that night. But when he went there, he had found Hana, a new student for whom he had developed liking

d) Did Hana think that the Japanese tortured their prisoners of war? Why?

Ans: Hana thought that the prisoners of war were tortured. She had heard stories of the sufferings of the prisoners. When the wounded American soldier was brought in, she had seen the red scars behind his neck. In fact, these scars were proofs of torture he had suffered in prison.

Q 2 Answer the following questions in about 125-150 words:

a) Dr. Sadao faced a dilemma. Should he use his surgical skills to save the life of a wounded person or hand an escaped American POW over to Japanese police? How did he resolve this clash of values?

Ans : Value points :

- Sadao believed in professional loyalty and human kindness.
- Ran the risk of being punished for saving an American
- Dilemma to be a patriot or traitor.
- Surgeon in him instinctively inspires him to operate upon the dying man / save him
- His sentimentality for the suffering and wounded help him rise above narrow national prejudices and extend help and services to an enemy.
- As a patriot reported the prisoner's presence at his house to the general- keeping his integrity as a Japanese ending of the stories highlight s humanitarian attitude of Sadao.
- Waited for the assassin to come.

Detailed answer

Dr. Sadao and his wife Hana remained in the state of conflict for quite a long time. They couldn't throw a wounded man again into the sea. They thought if they gave shelter to him in their house, they could be arrested' Handing him over to the police would have meant throwing him into the jaws of death. They were in a state of intense conflict. Ultimately, the duty of a doctor overpowered

b) Do you think Dr. Sadao's final decision was the best possible one in the circumstances? Why / Why not explain with reference to the story , "Enemy".

Ans It is said that war arouses passion. During the war hatred against a member of the enemy race is justifiable. It is natural reaction. We find it in the servants of Dr. Sadao. Even Yumi refuses to wash the wound. They don't want to commit the sin of saving the enemy .Hence, they leave the house as long as the American lives there. It does not mean that Dr.Sadao loves or likes Americans. On the other hand he has had very bitter experiences with them when he was in America. He knows that Americans were suffering from racial prejudice. He considers it as a relief that Japan is at war with America. Even Hana is reluctant to wash the wound of the prisoner of war. Only her human qualities and devotion to her husband compel her to look after the enemy. So far as Dr. Sadao is concerned, his duty as a doctor makes him operate on Tom and save him from dying.

Above all it is basic humanity and human values that compel a human being to rise over these prejudices. Love for humanity and human beings transcends all other narrow consideration . Both Dr. Sadao and Hana think that Americans are their enemies but dr. Sadao has been trained as a Doctor and will not let a man die if he can help him..So he will do his duty and his wife will help him in every possible way He fulfilled his duties as a human being and did not allow man-made boundaries to over power humanitarianism.

c) What was General's plan to get rid of the American prisoner? Was it executed ? What traits of the General's character are highlighted in the lesson "The Enemy"

Ans: The General plan to send his private assassins to kill the American prisoner and to let his body be removed by the professional killers. He told the doctor to keep the window of the soldier's room open so that the assassins had no problem in entering his room and it would look natural also . According to the General, his assassins knew the trick of internal bleeding and no one would doubt the doctor.

No but it was not executed. Actually the general knew that if he would send his assassin to kill the enemy soldier in the doctor's house then, the incident would be open and Dr. Sadao might get arrested on the charge of helping and sheltering an enemy soldier. This would put both the doctor and the General in a fix because there was no other surgeon who could operate upon the General except Dr. Sadao. So he didn't want to put the doctor into trouble. This shows that he was a self centred man who had neither compassionate feelings towards the soldier nor any humanitarianism feelings towards the doctor. All he was concerned about himself

L. 5 Should Wizard Hit Mommy ?

By John Updike

Q1 Answer the following questions in 30-40 words:

a) Why did Roger Skunk go to see the owl ?

Ans : Roger Skunk was an animal who was avoided by his due to his bad smell. So he went to see he old owl, expecting that he might help him with his problem.

b) How did wizard help Roger Skunk ?

Ans : Roger Skunk told the wizard hi problem that all the little animals ran away from him because he smelled very bad. The wizard agreed to help him. He took a magic wand in his hand and asked Roger Skunk what he wanted to smell like. Roger Skunk thought for a while , then said he wanted to smell like roses. The wizard used his magic spell . Suddenly the wizard's house was full of the smell of roses

c) Why did Joe want the wizard to do when Mommy Skunk approached him ?

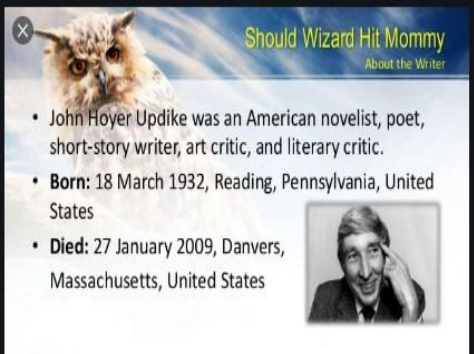
Ans : Jo wanted the story to end with his magic wand for not understanding Roger's feelings . The wizard should punish the mother. She wanted to dream of a magical and beautiful world devoid of ugliness and stink. She wants the baby Skunk to smell good, o that he can play with other animals. She doesn't want Roger to feel sad and lonely for no fault of his.

Q 2 Answer the following questions in about 125-150 words:

a) Why did Joe feel that Skunk's Mommy was stupid ?

Ans : Children look at this world from a perspective which is different from that of an adult. Their perspective on life reflects their fantasy and innocence. Jo considers little Roger Skunk the hero of the story. She has a deep sympathy for Roger skunk. Her expressions while listening to the story of poor Roger reflect her feelings. Roger faced segregation. His bad smell kept all little animals away from him. The little Skunk stood alone and wept. When the wizard made Roger smell of roses, he was happy. The other little animals were now attracted towards him. They played and danced with Roger who smelled like roses now..

Jo's main anger is against " stupid mommy " of Roger Skunk . it was she who forced the wizard to make Roger Skunk smell very bad again. The hero of the story is always a role model for children. The tender hearted Jo is shocked at the



Should Wizard Hit Mommy
About the Writer

- John Hoyer Updike was an American novelist, poet, short-story writer, art critic, and literary critic.
- **Born:** 18 March 1932, Reading, Pennsylvania, United States
- **Died:** 27 January 2009, Danvers, Massachusetts, United States

attitude of that “ stupid mommy” . she wants that Roger’s mommy must be punished. The wizard must hit on her heard with his magic wand. Children think stories and always want happy endings. Where as adults know that in real life, there may not be always be a happy ending.

b) A child/s stand point invariably is different from that of an adult.. Justify the statement with reference to the story, ‘ Should Wizard Hit Mommy?’”

Ans : Roger Skunk was awful smelling. No one wanted to come close to him. Therefore he went to a wizard to make him smell sweet. The wizard made him smell like roses. Roger Skunk’s mother did not like that and asked the wizard to make him the way he was. The wizard did the same.. When the child heard this she did not like the way her Skunk to be sweet smelling and the mother to be punished. This shows that opinion of adults and children differ..

The world of a child is quite different from that of an adult. It was the world of fantasy and wonder. There is no place for ugliness in their world. An adult’s perspective is different from that of a child’s because the adult has experience of life. On the other hand , the child’s mind is not developed. The child is curious and inquisitive about things around him. The child’s imaginary power is exemplary. He wants to get more and more knowledge about the things described to him. It is the duty of an adult to mould the behaviour of a child. Adults should should give them the knowledge that things are not as they are seen. There is a difference of perspective regarding life between the two only because of mature and immature minds



L. 6 On The Face Of It

By Susan Hill



Q1 Answer the following questions in 30-40 words:

a) Who was Derry? What did he suffer from ?

Derry is a young boy who came to Mr. Lamb's garden. One side of his face had been burnt by acid.

b) Why does Derry tell Mr. Lamb that he is afraid of seeing himself in the mirror in the story ' On the face of it' ?

Derry's face is burnt with acid. Derry says that people are afraid of him. They look at his face and find it terrible and ugly. So he says he too is afraid of himself when he sees his face in the mirror.

c) What consolation did people give Derry when they saw his acid burnt face?

People often asked him to look at those people who were in pain, are brave ,never cry, never complain and don't feel sorry for themselves . They also asked him to think of those who were worse off. He was better off than those people who were blind, born deaf, or are confined to wheel-chair, or are crazy and dribble.

d) What changes took place in Derry when he met Mr. Lamb?

When Derry met Mr. Lamb , his perspective towards life and himself changed. Derry had an acid burnt face due to which [people either used to pity him or were scared of him. This had made Derry-bitter and he had withdrawn into his own shell. He started avoiding meeting people talking to them or being in anyone's company. He had come to Mr. Lamb's garden thinking that it was an isolated place.

But Mr. Lamb made him see a different side of life. He told him what is out is outside is not important rather we should focus on what is inside. He made Derry see the beauty of life again. The sound of the rain, blossoming trees, chirping birds, everything was beautiful around him. Derry realised that it doesn't matter how he looked. What matters is how he treats himself and life. He became positive again.

Q2 Answer the following questions in 100-150 words :

a) What was Derry's infirmity? How had it made him withdrawn and defiant?

Derry's face has been burnt by acid. He suffered from a tremendous sense of inferiority complex. He was always conscious of the fact that his face was curd and ugly. As a result people were afraid of him and nobody would ever kiss him.

It made him withdrawn and defiant in the sense that he stopped Trusting people . He always thought that if people were looking at him, then They were passing derogatory remarks about him.

b) How did Mr. Lamb's meeting with Derry become a turning point in Derry's life?

Derry is fourteen years old boy with a face burnt by acid. Mr. Lamb serves as an ideal person for Derry. Mr. Lamb has tin leg. But he never allows his disability to sour the joys of life. Derry on the other hand makes himself quite pitiable and miserable . His hyper sensitivity is like an open wound. He can't stand people staring at him. Even cruel and uncharitable remarks upsets him . He can't keep his years shut. Nor does he posses a large and generous heart like that of Mr. Lamb. Children call him 'Lamey -Lamb' but he does not mind it. He plays with them and gives them jellies and toffees Derry has developed a perverted thinking. The worst is that Derry distrust this world and its people. We find a change in Derry in the end. Mr. Lamb's ideas leave their imprint on him. He is free from that complex now. He doesn't care about his burnt face and it is no more important to him.



L. 7 EVANS TRIES AN O- LEVEL

by *Collin Dexter*



Q1 Answer the following questions in 30-40 words:

a) According to the Governor, what kind of person was Evans?

Evans was also known as ‘Evans the break’ as he had run away thrice from the jail. He was considered a pleasant sort chap by the prison authorities..He was good at imitations but was a congenital kleptomaniac. He wanted to sit for the examination so as to use the opportunity to escape from the prison.

b) What reasons did Evans give to keep his hat on his head ? What was the actual reason ?

Evans said that he wanted to keep his hat on because it was lucky for him It always brought luck to him. But the real reason was that he had cut his hair to impersonate Macleery and he did not want the jail authorities to know that.

c) What arrangements were made by the secretary of the Examination Board and the Governor for the smooth conduct of the examination?

The secretary of the examination board said that he would send all the forms and other material necessary for conducting the examination. The examination would be held in the Evans ‘ cell.It was agreed to get one person from st Mary Mag to invigilate.

Q2 Answer the following questions in 100-150 words :

a) What precautions were taken by the prison authorities for the smooth conduct of examination ?

Evans the prisoner was famous as “ Evans , The Breaker “. So the prison officers were quit alert while conducting the ‘O ‘ level exam and took all the precautions to prevent him from escaping. First of all, it was requested that the board should conduct the exam in the cell itself and the request was accepted . Two prison officers Mr. Jackson and Mr. Stephen were appointed to make all necessary arrangements . They took away his razor as well as his nail- scissors so that he could not use them for any type of injuries in the case of Mcleery, the invigilator . The cell was searched for two hours and every objectionable thing was removed. Heavy security arrangements were made in the cell. Stephen was given the charge of

staying there all the time to keep an eye on Evan and also to leave McLerry at the gate when the exam was over.. The Governor was all the time in touch with the officers. In case of any problem which might arise hence , it was a fool proof plan on the part of prison officials. Even then Evan had the last laugh and escaped from the prison.

b) What purpose did the question paper and the correction slip serve? How did they help both the criminals and the Governor?

The question paper serves to send a message to Evans. Mcleery draw the Governor's attention to the photocopied sheet superimposed over the last sheet of the question paper. It contains a message for Evans . He had been asked to follow the plan. The most important point in time, according to the message is three minutes before the end of the examination. The Governor is unable to decipher the next line of the German text. Then, Evans has been asked not to hit McLeery too hard and not to overdo the Scots accent.



L 8 Memories Of Childhood

by Zitkala-Sa and Bama



Q1 Answer the following questions in 30-40 words:

a) How did Zitkala-Sa's first day in the land of apples begin?

Ans : Zitkala's first day in the land of apples was a bad experience for her. She was made to wear clothes which she considered immodest. The army like discipline followed at the dining table left her embarrassed. On that day her long hair was shingled even after her cries and protests from her.

b) At the dining table, why did Zitkala-Sa begin to cry when others started eating?

Zitkala-sa cried at the table because she was very embarrassed. She did not know the practices involved while eating. When the first bell was sounded every one pulled their chairs. She did too. But while everyone was waiting for the second bell to ring in order to sit and start eating, she sat down on the first bell itself. This made her feel embarrassed and she started crying.

c) Why did Bama reach home late after school?

Ans : Street plays or a puppet show or a stunt performance, arrival of political parties and their speeches through mike, coffee clubs in bazaar, the chopping of onions or almonds being blown away by winds, all these activities fascinated Bama on her way back from school.

Q2 Answer the following questions in 100-150 words :

a) What were Zitkala Sa's experiences on the first day in the land of apple?

Ans : It was Zitkala – Sa's first day in the land of apples. She was an American Indian who had been brought there. She had two unpleasant experiences. She had to face an embarrassing position in the dining room as she didn't know the eating pattern that was followed there. When a large bell rang she marched into the dining room along with the Indian girls. A small bell was tapped. Each of the pupils drew a chair from under the table. She thought that they were going to eat. So she pulled out a chair and lipped into it. When She looked around, she found that she alone was seated while the rest were standing. She found herself in an embarrassing position.

Then she got the shocking news that they were going to shingle her long, heavy hair. She was in great panic. When nobody was noticing her, she crept up to the stairs. She hid herself in an empty room under the bed. But she was found out. She was dragged out and brought down stairs. She was tied fast to a chair. Her hair was shingled. She cried but no one came to her rescue.

b) How did the scene, she saw in the market place, change Bama's life?

Ans : India has a long history in which the lower castes have been treated cruelly. They have been made to live separate from society and are often thought of as untouchables as dirty. They are thus subjected to a poor treatment by the society.

Similarly Bama had seen an important elder of her community vadais for his master in a comical manner. He was holding the packet only by the string **and** held it away from himself. This sight made Bama want to double up with laughter when she received this to her elder brother Annaa. He explained to her that against this prejudice was to study, learn and succeed. He told her that if she worked hard and became successful, people would flock to and want to associate themselves with her. This was the only way to earn dignity and respect.



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