



L2 THE SOUND OF MUSIC Part I

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Vocabulary

Vibrations

Deteriorated

Auditioned

Intriguing

Hectic

Word Meanings

Jostle = Push gently

Prestigious = Having high status

Daunting = Frightening

Profoundly = Completed

Potential = Capacity

I Answer the following questions in 30 to 40 words:

a) Why was Evelyn nervous while going to Royal Academy of Music?

Ans :Evelyn was nervous while going to Royal Academy of Music as she was just 16 years old and was fresh from the Scottish Farms which added to her nervousness.

b) When and how did Evelyn lose her power of hearing?

Ans : Evelyn lost her power of hearing due to gradual nerve damage. At the age of 8 it was noticed and then at the age of 11 it was confirmed that Evelyn had lost her power of hearing ability.

c) Who helped Evelyn to continue with music? What did he do and how?

Ans : When Evelyn wanted to pursue her career for music everyone discouraged her. It was a percussionist Ron Forbes who helped and encouraged her to listen the music. And feel the music with her body.

II Answer the following question in 100 – 150 words:

a) Evelyn's determination to overcome her disability has made her a source of inspiration for deaf children. Comment.

Ans: When Evelyn became deaf, she was determined to lead normal life. She was encouraged by her percussion teacher. She learned to sense the music through different parts of the body and opened her mind and body to the vibrations. She could feel higher drum from waist up and xylophone music through finger tips. She used to remove her shoes on the wooden floors. She was the master of a thousand instruments and most sought after a multi percussionist.

b) In spite of her towering success, Evelyn Glennie does not accept any hint of heroic achievement. Explain.

Ans: Evelyn Glennie had a hearing loss and was discouraged by most of the teachers but she did not give up her determination. Ron Forbes guided her to listen through her body not through her ears. Eventually Evelyn learnt to open her body and mind to sound and vibrations. She scored the highest marks in the history of Royal Academy of Music she also captured many top awards and brought percussion to the front of the Orchestra. She has given pleasure to millions and in spite of this towering success, she does not accept hint of heroic achievement and is very simple person.

PART II

THE SHEHNANI OF BISMILLAH KHAN

Vocabulary

Vibrations
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Hectic



Word Meanings

Banned = Forbade
Reeded = Wind instruments which have reeds like the flute.
Captivated = Held attention of
Coveted = Much in demand
Conferred = Given

I Answer the following questions in 30 to 40 words:

a) Why did Aurangzeb ban the playing of Pungi in the royal residence?

Ans: Aurangzeb banned the playing of the Pungi in the Royal residence because of its shrill and unpleasant sound. It was regarded more as a noise maker than a musical instrument.

b) Who had brought Shehnai to the classical stage? What was he honoured with?

Ans: Shehnai was brought to the classical stage by Ustad Bismillah Khan. He started picking up the finger nuances of shehnai under the guidance of his maternal uncle Ali Bux. He had been honoured with Padmashree , Padma Bhushan and Padma vibhushan

c) Why did Bismillah Khan regularly go to the nearby Bihariji temple in his childhood and what did he earn ?

Ans: At the age of 5, Bismillah Khan would regularly visit the Bihariji Temple to sing Bhojpuri “Chaitya “. For this melodious singing he used to earn a laddu weighing 1.25 kg from local Bhojpuri King

II Answer the following question in 100 – 150 words :

a) How did young Bismillah develop his interest in Shehnai?

Ans Bismillah was fascinated watching his uncle practise the Shehnai when he was only three. He was deeply fascinated by the music of Shehnai. Bismillah started accompanying his uncle Ali Bux, to the Vishnu Temple of Benaras where Bux was employed to play Shehnai. Bismillah picked up the finer nuances of Shehnai and practised for hours on the banks river Ganga. The themes of his music were deeply affected by the sounds of flowing water of the Ganga. At the age of 14, Bismillah accompanied his uncle to Allahabad music conference where Ustad Fayaz Khan patted his shoulder which inspired and encouraged him to work harder.

b) “There is always a teacher to bring out the latent potential of a pupil.” Justify with reference to the role played by Ron Forbes and Ustad Faiyaz Khan in the lives of Evelyn Glennie and Bismillah Khan .

Ans. Teachers craft us to become better individuals both personally and professionally. Ron Forbes understood Evelyn’s passion for music. He taught Evelyn the nuances of hearing music not through her ears but through her body. He taught her to feel the vibrations in her hands and parts of legs to get the pitch. So, he crafted her to be more musical and confident.

Bismillah Khan’s teacher and mentor was his maternal uncle Ali Bux. Bismillah used to be transfixed when Ali Bux used to play Shehnai. As a child, Bismillah used to accompany his maternal uncle to Vishnu Temple of Benaras where Ali Bux was employed to play Shehnai. Bismillah picked up the finer nuances of Shehnai and practised for hours on the banks of river Ganga. He attained perfection only because of his uncle and mentor.