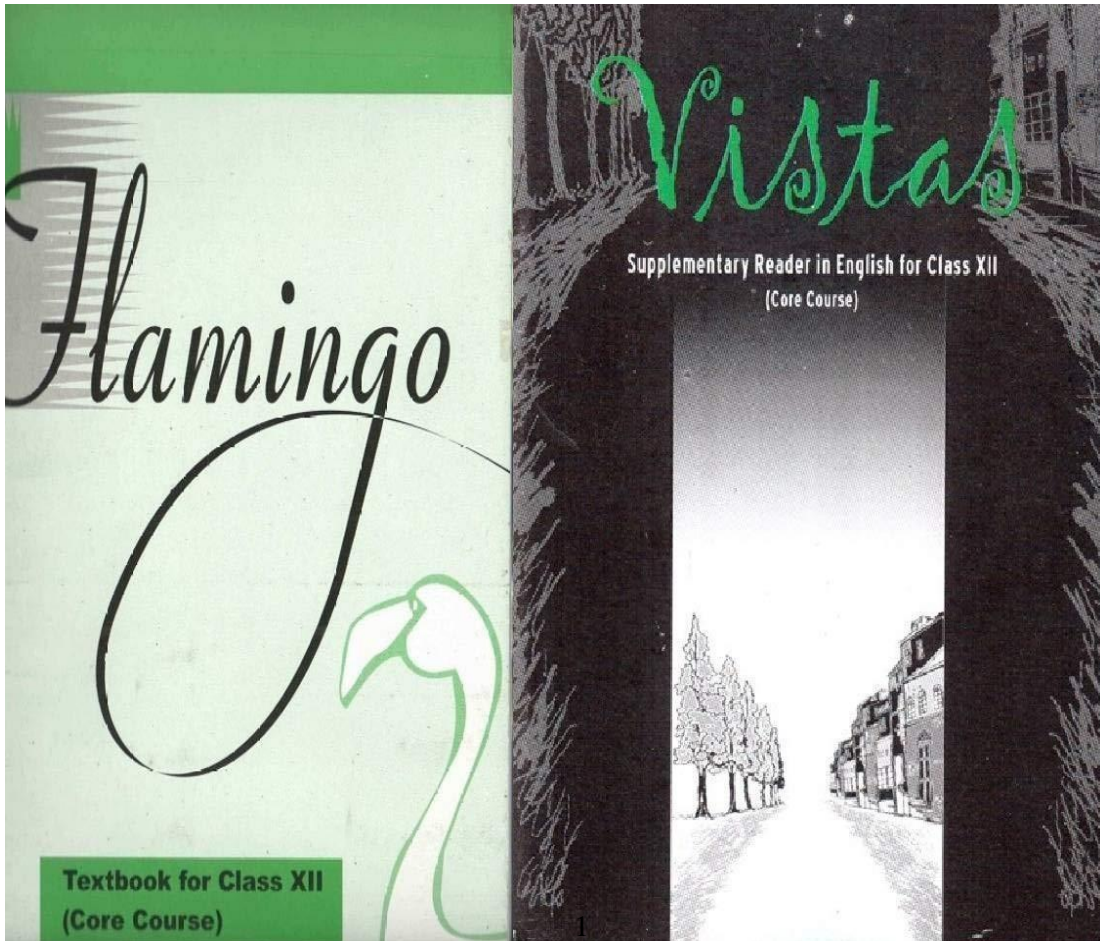




**पुनजा International School**  
Shree Swaminarayan Gurukul, Zundal

**GRADE : XII**  
**ENGLISH CORE**  
**TERM :1**  
**2023-2024**



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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 treat 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 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

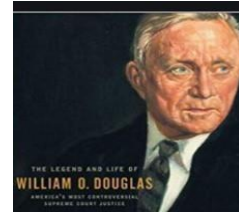
windows.

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 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 :**

YMCA pool was safe, only two or three feet deep at the shallow end, nine feet deep at the other end, The drop was gradual close to his residence..

**Detailed answer**

Douglas preferred to go to the YMCA pool because it was safe as it was only two to three feet deep at its shallow end and nine feet deep at the other end and the drop was gradual . Where as Yakima river was treacherous and many cases of drowning had been reported.

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

**Ans : Value points**

- Experience of fear and death and its conquest made him live intensely.
- Conquering fear made him realize true value of life and helped him enjoy every moment of life.
- Learnt all we have to fear is fear itself.
- Made him more confident and determined..

**Detailed answer**

- After the experience , Douglas started fearing water. As and when he tried to enter water stark fear would seize him. His legs would become paralyzed and icy terror would grab his heart . He could not enjoy sports like canoeing , boating and swimming. This experience of fear and death and its conquest made him live intensely.
- He realized the true value of life and finally learnt that all we have to “fear is fear itself” Thus he came out of the fear as a confident and determined person.

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

**Ans: Value points**

- His experience at the beach in California when he was a kid wave knocked him down and swept over him.
- When he grew older a big boy pushed him and made him scared of water.

**Ans:** When he was a kid, he was knocked down by the waves at the beach in California and then, at the YMCA pool, he was thrown inside the pool by a young boy.

Both the incidences frightened him and made him scared of water.

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

**a) What misadventure did Douglas experience at the YMCA swimming pool**

**Ans :** The writer had to face an extremely traumatic experience at the YMCA pool. He used to go there to learn swimming. The pool was two feet at its shallow end and nine feet at its deep end. One day a strong boy picked him up and threw him at the deepest part of the pool. He sank to the bottom .But he decided to fight back. He thought of going down to the bottom of the pool and the floor and jump up like a cork. He tried to jump and come up gradually. But unfortunately, he could not succeed.

Thrice, he tried to jump up but he sank again. As fear had gripped him, All his efforts went in vain. He was nearly drowned. He tried to breathe but swallowed water .He lay there in complete peace without any sensation or fear of death .But someone saved him.

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

**Ans** Do it yourself

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8el\\_zv4CYCM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8el_zv4CYCM)

Vistas :

## 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 JilaniJung 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 inhabiting '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 100<sup>th</sup> 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 fulfil 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 100<sup>th</sup> 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.

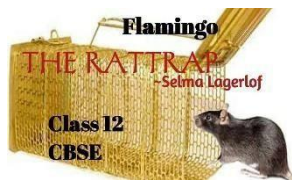
The Maharaja and the Dewan thought over the problem. They asked a Famous British company of jewellers in Calcutta to send samples of Diamond rings. They received fifty rings. . The Maharaja sent all the rings to the British officer's lady. She kept them all and send a word of thanks. In two days a bill 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 4 THE RATTRAP

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 rattrap ?**

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 ironmaster 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 rat trap 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.

**a) 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.

## Poem 1 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 realized with  
pain.....

a) who is 'I' ?

Ans: Poet Kamala 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'

a) 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 tell 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 symbolize youth and life, whereas 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 loss 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 'Kamala 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 concerned 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

**c) These days many instances occur in which we hear that children neglect their aging parents. Do you agree with the statement?" What can we do to strengthen or make cordial relationship with our parents?**

**Ans :** Of course it is right to say that children neglect their aging parents nowadays. They do not take proper care of their old parents. That is why they are forced to leave their homes and compelled to lead their lives in old-age homes

We should take steps to strengthen our relationship with our parents. As we grow old, we must understand our responsibility and take care of our parents. We should make sure that we are always with them in their old age, because every parent needs their child's love and care. We should never treat them like a burden. Parents are our torch-bearers. They show us how to lead life. As they are with us as a support all the time when we were small, we should also be with our parents

I wish every one should realize their responsibilities and support their parents in best possible manner

**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.....”

## 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) 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 or from outside.

**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 one's 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 realize the feeling of mutual understanding amongst us.



## 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.

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.

**B] 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.

**C] '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.

### **L3 Journey to the end of the earth**

**By Tishant Doshi**



#### **Q I Answer the following questions in 40-50 words**

**a) How do geological phenomena help us to know about the history of humankind?**

**Answer:**

Geological phenomena such as the drifting of land masses and their separating into countries help us to know about the history of humankind. A visit to Antarctica around which Gondwana once existed, is like going back to past as it gives us an understanding of evolution and extinction, ozone and carbon, where humankind came from, and where it is headed.

**b) What are the indications for the future of humankind?**

**Answer:**

All thoughtless activities of humankind such as increasing cities and megacities, cutting forests and turning those to concrete jungles, careless burning of fossil fuel, depleting ozone and increasing carbon dioxide, and global warming, melting ice caps and shields, our battle with other species for limited resources and other similar reckless activities point to a grim future for humankind. If concrete steps are not taken immediately, these drastic changes may lead to the end of the world.

**c) When did the author start her journey to Antarctica and what had she to pass through?**

**Answer:**

The author started her journey 13.09 degrees north of the Equator in Madras—she was on board a Russian research vessel—the Akademik Shokalskiy. She had to pass through nine time zones, six checkpoints, three bodies of water and at least as many ecospheres. After travelling over hundred hours in combination of a car, an aeroplane and a ship, she reached Antarctica.

**d) What emotions did the author experience when she reached Antarctica at last?**

**Answer:**

The author finally set foot on the Antarctica continent after travelling over 100 hours in combination of car, aeroplane and ship. Her first emotion on seeing the vast expansive white

landscape and the blue horizon was of relief. She experienced the emotion of wonder at its immensity and isolation and its strange relationship with India.

**e) How would you describe Gondwana?**

Answer:

Gondwana was a giant amalgamated southern supercontinent, centering around present-day Antarctica. Humans had not arrived on the global scene. The climate was much warmer. There was a huge variety of flora and fauna. Gondwana thrived for 500 million years. When the age of the mammals got underway, the landmass was forced to separate into countries. Antarctica separated from the whole landmass shaping the globe as we know it today.

**Q2 Answer the following questions in 100-120 words**

**1. 'The world's geological history is trapped in Antarctica.' How is the study of this region useful to us?**

Answer.

The world's geological history is indeed trapped in Antarctica. The study of the region of Antarctica gives us insight into the world's geological history. This is because the current world is battling with the growing population and the extreme burning of fossil fuels has formed a blanket of carbon dioxide around the earth, which is the main cause of global temperature or warming. Antarctica is a crucial element in the debate on climate change because it is relatively 'pristine'. It is because 650 million years ago Gondwana land existed in the south part of the earth where Antarctica is currently situated. It contains a rich variety of flora and fauna. For 500 million years Gondwana flourished, later landmass was forced to separate into countries, shaping the globe, much as we know it today. All secrets are embedded in the layers of the ice in the form of 500-million-year-old carbon records. Hence, to study about earth's past Antarctica is the best place.

**2. What are Geoff Green's reasons for including high school students in the Students on Ice expedition?**

Answer.

Geoff Green took the high school students to one end of the world, to give them the chance to develop respect and knowledge for the earth. He included high school students in the ice expedition because with students on the ice expedition he offered the future policymakers to experience how difficult it would have been for the earth to sustain life by raising its warmth. At a younger age when the

process of good values develops in their life, it will also assist them in knowing more about their planet.

**3. ‘Take care of the small things and the big things will take care of themselves.’ What is the relevance of this statement in the context of the Antarctic environment?**

**Answer.**

‘Take care of the small things and the big things will take care of themselves.’ is a relevant statement to the Antarctic environment. A small environmental change can give rise to dramatic developments. Because of the small biodiversity and simple ecosystem, Antarctica is the best place to study the small changes in the environment that give big consequences. For example, consider the microscopic phytoplankton — these grasses of the sea that feed and support the entire Southern Ocean’s food chain. These single-celled plants use the sun’s energy to absorb carbon dioxide and manufacture organic compounds and the most important of processes is called photosynthesis. Scientists caution that more depletion in the ozone layer will affect the activities of phytoplankton, which in turn affect the marine life’s food chain. From this example of the phytoplankton, there is a great metaphor for existence: take care of the small things and the big things will fall into place.

**4. Why is Antarctica the place to go to, to understand the earth’s present, past and future?**

**Answer.**

Antarctica is the best place to understand the earth’s present, past, future because it holds in its ice cores, half a million-year-old carbon records trapped in its layers of ice. Antarctica gives an idea of how the earth would have been like millions of years ago and how it formed into different masses of earth. Antarctica has a vibrant diversity of flora and fauna is a rich heritage of the past. Therefore, Antarctica is a place to understand the earth’s present, past and future.

## Reading

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

1. Air pollution is an issue which concerns us all alike. One can willingly choose or reject a food, a drink or a life comfort, but unfortunately there is little choice for the air we breathe. All, what is there in the air is inhaled by one and all living in those surroundings.
2. Air pollutant is defined as a substance which is present while normally it is not there or present in an amount exceeding the normal concentrations. It could either be gaseous or a particulate matter. The important and harmful polluting gases are carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, ozone and oxides of sulphur and nitrogen. The common particulate pollutants are the dusts of various inorganic or organic origins. Although we often talk of the outdoor air pollution caused by industrial and vehicular exhausts, the indoor pollution may prove to be as or a more important cause of health problems.
3. Recognition of air pollution is relatively recent. It is not uncommon to experience a feeling of 'suffocation' in a closed environment. It is often ascribed to the lack of oxygen. Fortunately, however, the composition of air is remarkably constant all over the world. There is about 79 per cent nitrogen and 21 per cent oxygen in the air the other gases forming a very small fraction. It is true that carbon dioxide exhaled out of lungs may accumulate in a closed and overcrowded place. But such an increase is usually small and temporary unless the room is really airtight. Exposure to poisonous gases such as carbon monoxide may occur in a closed room, heated by burning coal inside. This may also prove to be fatal.
4. What is more common in a poorly ventilated home is a vague constellation of symptoms described as the sick building syndrome. It is characterized by a general feeling of malaise, headache, dizziness and irritation of mucous membranes. It may also be accompanied by nausea, itching, aches, pains and depression. Sick building syndrome is getting commoner in big cities with the small houses, which are generally over furnished. Some of the important pollutants whose indoor concentrations exceed those of the outdoors include gases such as carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, oxides of nitrogen and organic substances like spores, formaldehydes, hydrocarbon aerosols and allergens. The sources are attributed to a variety of construction materials, insulations, furnishings, adhesives, cosmetics, house dusts, fungi and other indoor products.
5. Byproducts of fuel combustion are important in houses with indoor kitchens. It is not only the burning of dried dung and fuel wood which is responsible, but also kerosene and liquid petroleum gas. Oxides of both nitrogen and sulphur are released from their combustion.
6. Smoking of tobacco in the closed environment is an important source of indoor pollution. It may not be high quantitatively, but significantly hazardous for health. It is because of the fact that there are over 3,000 chemical constituents in tobacco smoke, which have been identified. These are harmful for human health.
7. Microorganisms and allergens are of special significance in the causation and spread of diseases. Most of the infective illnesses may involve more persons of a family living in common indoor environment. These include viral and bacterial diseases like tuberculosis.
8. Besides infections, allergic and hypersensitivity disorders are spreading fast. Although asthma is the

most common form of respiratory allergic disorders, pneumonias are not uncommon, but more persistent and serious. These are attributed to exposures to allergens from various fungi, moulds, hay and other organic materials. Indoor air ventilation systems, coolers, air conditioners, dampness, decay, pet animals, production or handling of the causative items are responsible for these hypersensitivity diseases.

9. Obviously, the spectrum of pollution is very wide and our options are limited. Indoor pollution may be handled relatively easily by an individual. Moreover, the good work must start from one's own house. (Extracted from The Tribune)

(a)

- (i) What is an air pollutant? 1
- (ii) In what forms are the air pollutants present? 2
- (iii) Why do we feel suffocated in a closed environment? 1
- (iv) What is sick building syndrome? How is it increasing? 2
- (v) How is indoor smoking very hazardous? 1
- (vi) How can one overcome the dangers of indoor air pollution? 2

Answer:

- (i) An air pollutant is a substance which is present while normally it is not there in an amount exceeding the normal , concentrations.
- (ii) Air pollutants are present as gaseous or particulate matter. The harmful polluting gases are carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, ozone and oxides of sulphur and nitrogen. The common particulate pollutants are the dusts of various inorganic or organic origins.
- (iii) We often feel suffocated in a closed environment due to the lack of oxygen.
- (iv) Sick building syndrome is a vague constellation of symptoms in a poorly ventilated room. Sick building syndrome is characterized by a general feeling of malaise, headache, dizziness and irritation of mucous membranes. It may also be accompanied by nausea, itching, aches, pains and depression. This syndrome is increasing in big cities which have an increasing number of small houses which are generally over furnished.
- (v) Indoor smoking is very hazardous because over 3,000 chemical constituents are present in tobacco smoke and these are harmful for human health.

vi) The dangers of indoor pollution can be avoided through well ventilated houses and improving greenery around houses. Also, it can be avoided by not smoking tobacco inside houses and by not burning coal inside closed rooms.

(a) Find the words from the above passage which mean the same as the following: 3

- (i) giddiness (para 4)
- (ii) constant (para 8)
- (iii) humidity (para 8)

Answer:

- (i) dizziness
- (ii) persistent
- (iii) dampness

## NOTICE WRITING

Q 1 You are Secretary of the History Club of PUNA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL. Draft a notice in not more than 50 words informing students of a proposed visit to some important historical sites in your city.

Draft a notice in not more than 50 words.

PUNA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL  
History Club  
Notice

22nd September, 20xx

### Visit Historical Sites

Members of the club are hereby informed of a proposed educational visit to a few important historical sites in our city which is likely to be scheduled between the 28th and the 30th of Sep. Interested members are required to pay ? 550 (inclusive of transport and snacks) during the zero periods to the undersigned by the 25th of September.

Secretary  
History Club



**Q 2 As Sports Secretary of G.D.G. Public School, Pune, draft notice in not more than 50 words for your school notice board informing the students about the sale of old sportsgoods of our school. You are Rohini / Rohit**

**G.D.G. Public School**

Pune  
Notice

29th July, 20xx

**Sale of Old Spoils Goods**

Students are hereby informed that our school is organising a sale of its old sports goods like cricket bats, badminton & lawn tennis rackets, footballs, cricket & football gear etc. in the P.E. Room on 2K1 August, 20xx. Those interested in purchasing these can visit the P.E. Room on the assigned date during their free periods or recess time.

Rohit  
Sports Secretary.

## REPORT

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

**Answer:**

**Seminar On Water Conservation**

By: Prisha  
Maryland School,

Gurgaon 16th March, 20xx, Surat: Our school organized a seminar on 'Water Conservation' as part of the World Water Day Celebrations on 13th August, 20xx. The main aim of this seminar was to remind us all about the need to save the government and the non-governmental organisations in providing help water as it is a precious source imperative for our survival.

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

Using visual aids to highlight his discourse, he suggested that to ensure availability of water for the future

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

## **Question 2**

Your school organized an exhibition-cum-sale of the items prepared under Work [Experience Certificate](#) by your school students. There was an overwhelming response from the public. Prepare a report in 100-125 words for a local daily. You are the Coordinator, S.U.P.W. activities, Udgam School, Ahmedabad

**Answer:.**

### **An Exhibition-Cum-Sale**

By: ABC, Coordinator, SUPW Activities  
Udgam School, Ahmdabad

3rd Aug. 20xx, Ahmedabad Our school organised an exhibition-cum-sale of items prepared under Work Experience by our students on the 31st of July in the school lawns. It was heartening to see the overwhelming response our endeavour got from not only the parents but also from the general public who showed a lot of interest in the items made by the students. A wide array of items such as candles, greeting cards, jewellery boxes, wooden handicrafts had been prepared by talented students.

The students were really encouraged by the positive feedback they got from everyone present. Our principal too was personally present there all the time interacting with everyone. He appreciated the students' hard work and creativity and announced that the money collected from the sale of items would be donated to an old-age home in the vicinity of our school. Our principal also decided that such initiatives would be taken up by our school more frequently to motivate the creative students and to help a noble cause.

## **Question 2**

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

### **Environment Unfriendly Polybags**

By: Amarjeet, Staff Reporter  
The National Herald

In the year 2002 the government had banned the production and use of plastic bags in our country. But unfortunately, these are now being widely used again everywhere. Not only are we using a huge number of polybags daily but we are also discarding them in our drains uncaring about the fact that they will block the flow of drain water. Polybags are also a threat to our environment. They cause pollution, kill wildlife

and are responsible for using up the natural resources of the earth. They are one of the main factors that litter the landscape. If burnt, they will infuse the surrounding air with toxic fumes.

## **ARTICLE S**

### **Question 1**

**In many parts of our country girls are still discouraged from going to school. Consequently, a sizable section of the population is deprived of education. Schemes like Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, CBSE scholarship to the single girl child and the Government's policy of giving free education to girls have come as a boon to our society. Write an article in 150-200 words on the education of the girl child in the country.**

**Answer:**

#### **Education Of The Girl Child In The Country**

Education of girls has been a high priority with the Government of India. In the new millennium, India has consolidated its earlier educational reforms with increased resources and stronger policy commitments for achieving elementary education, particularly for girls. Reaching out to the girl child is primary to the efforts to universalise elementary education. 'Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan' or 'Education For All' programme recognizes that ensuring the education of the girl child requires changes not only in the education system but also in society's norms and attitudes.

A two-pronged gender strategy has hence been adopted to make the educational system responsive to the needs of the girls through targeted interventions which serve as a pull-factor to enhance access and retention of girls in schools on the one hand and generate community demand for girls' education through training and mobilisation on the other hand. The CBSE has also come up with the novel scheme of providing free education from the sixth standard onwards to the single girl child. The need of the times is that the government should further improve the educational infrastructure and make it more accessible and meaningful for the girl child.

### **Question 2**

**Advertisements have become a big business. They are promoted by celebrities drawn from various fields like films, sports, etc., leaving their influence on all people specially the young. Write an article in 150- 200 words on 'The Impact of Advertisements on the younger generation'.**

**Answer:**

#### **Impact Of Advertisements On The Younger Generation**

The advertisement industry has a tremendous impact on the younger generation. As citizens of the modern world, advertisements have become a part of the daily lives of youngsters and they have got used to being bombarded with numerous advertisements over the course of their day.

Advertisements have become so common for them that they often do not even realize that they are hearing or viewing them. So they have a pervasive influence on the youth. In the ever-expanding world of consumerism and advertising, companies are constantly looking for new ways to sell their products to the youngsters by making their commercials and campaigns more memorable, to leave an impact on their minds. The younger generation has become their prime target because they have more spending power

### **Question 3**

**The present-day youth are greatly stressed due to cut-throat competition and consumerist culture. Write an article in 150-200 words on the causes of the stress on the modern generation suggesting suitable solutions.**

### **Answer**

#### **Causes Of Stress On The Modern Generation**

The main cause of stress on the modern generation is the cut-throat competition and consumerist culture prevalent in our society. This always puts them under pressure of efficiency and productivity. The modern environment is highly competitive and calls for relentless effort on the part of each youngster. To achieve the goals they have to devote all their time and capacity, without rest. So they have no time to care even for their own selves. They have no time for relaxing or to pursue something of their own interest sounds like a luxury to them. The effects of this stress on the youth also visible in their physical being whereby they have increased pulses and a lot of tension in their muscles.

With increased professionalism and specialization there seems no practical and suitable solution for this stress due to the competition. In this age of consumerism, it is not surprising that the youth of today are also constantly vying to outdo each other in acquiring material things. But now it is high time each one of us sat back in quiet introspection to contemplate where we are actually heading in this high-speed pace. Our health and well-being will have to be our primary concern for, as they say, "a healthy mind lies in a healthy body". Let us stop living like robots. We are humans and have to behave likewise and not like machines which are our own creation.

## Letter to the editor

### Question 1

**SAF Public School, Chandigarh is planning to take a group of 40 senior students to Shimla on an excursion during the summer vacation. Mr. Mohan Das, the teacher-in-charge of 'Excursions & Field Trips', writes a letter to Tours & Travels, Chandigarh asking them to organize the tour. Write this letter giving details of preference such as dates of journey, transport, accommodation, etc.**

Answer:

SAF Public School  
Chandigarh  
18th April, 20xx

The Manager

Tours & Travels Sector 40-C Chandigarh

Subject: To organise an excursion to Shimla for 40 students

Sir/Maam,

We are a group of 40 senior students and 5 teachers who are planning a five-day excursion to Shimla during our summer vacations. We would like your travel company to organise this trip for us. Our preferred dates for this trip are between the 20th and 30th of May. We would like to travel by the toy train to Shimla and rely upon your company's expertise to book decent accommodation for us on a twin-sharing basis in a hotel on the main Mall Road. The cost of the trip should not exceed 8,000 per student with boarding and lodging. I would appreciate a fast response from your end giving us the details and an itinerary for our trip.

Looking forward to your early response.

Yours sincerely

Mohan Das

### Question 2

Read the advertisement given below and write a letter applying for the job. Also give your detailed resume to be sent along with the letter. You are Praveen Kumar of 95 HAL Colony, Bengaluru. (Delhi 2009)

#### Situations Vacant

**Wanted Post Graduate Teacher in English to teach Senior Secondary Classes in a reputed school in Bengaluru. Candidates should have a minimum of three years of teaching experience. Apply to Box No. 178, C/o 'The Deccan Herald', Bengaluru 500 015.**

Answer:

95, HAL Colony  
M.G. Road Bengaluru 11th June, 20xx  
The Advertiser Box No. 178C/ o The Deccan Herald  
Bengaluru 500 015

Subject: Application for the Post of P.G. Teacher in English

Sir,

This is in response to your advertisement in 'The Deccan Herald' dated 9th June, 20xx for the post of PGT in English for your institution. I wish to apply for the same.

Attached herewith is my brief resume and I would be too happy if I am considered for the above-mentioned post in your school.

Yours sincerely  
Praveen Kumar

## RESUMÉ

Name - Praveen Kumar  
Date of Birth - 29<sup>th</sup> July, 1980  
Permanent Address - 95 HAL Colony, M.G. Road, Bengaluru  
Contact No. - 26134152  
Academic - Passed Higher  
Qualification - Secondary School Examination, CBSE Board from Ramakrishan Public School, Bengaluru with 84% aggregate.  
Graduate from Karnataka University with a Bachelor's Degree in English with 79% aggregate.  
Post-graduated from Karnataka University with a Master's Degree in English with 76% aggregate.  
A Degree in Education (B.Ed.) from Annamalai University with 82% aggregate.  
Professional Experience - Presently teaching in a reputed Public School in Bengaluru for the past 6 years.  
Hobbies - Reading and Music

If my particulars suit your requirement, I will be happy to come for a personal interview as per your schedule. Praveen Kumar

### Question 3 Home work

You are Indu, a student of Class XII living at 131, Hans Apartments, Agra. You are interested in pursuing a course in journalism. Write a letter in response to an advertisement issued by the Asian Institute of journalism, Delhi in a national daily, seeking information about suitable courses, eligibility, fee structure and placement opportunities.

### **LETTER OF APPLICATION FOR JOB**

St. Marry's Public School, Balasore urgently requires a post – graduate teacher to teach political science for

which they have placed an advertisement in The Balasore Express. You are Sanjay/Sanjana Sharma from 21, Vasant Marg, Balasore. Draft a letter including a CV, applying for the advertised post. (120 – 150 words)

Answer:

28, Vasant Marg  
Balasore XXXXXX  
Chhattisgarh  
2 June 2018

The Principal  
Marry's Public School  
Ravidas Marg  
Balasore XXXXXX  
Chhattisgarh

Dear Sir

Subject: Application for the post of a postgraduate teacher (political science)

With reference to your advertisement in the The Balasore Express dated 10 May 20XX for the post of Postgraduate teacher in Political Science, I wish to submit my application for the same. I am also attaching my CV herewith.

Yours faithfully  
Sanjay Sharma  
Encl. CV

### **Curriculum Vitae**

Name : Sanjay Sharma  
Father's Name : Shri A.K. Sharma  
Place of birth : Pune, Maharashtra  
Address for communication : 28, Vasant Marg, Balasore, Chhattisgarh  
Date of birth : 21 September 1990  
Contact Number : 981002XXXX  
Email ID : sanjay2012@gmail.com  
Marital Status : Unmarried  
Educational Qualifications : BA (political science) & MA (political science), BEd, MEd from Delhi University  
Languages known : Hindi, English  
Work Experience : Worked as PGT (political science) in SKB Public School Balasore from March 2013 to February 2017  
Last salary drawn : 45,000 per month gross



Q2 You are Prem/Parul, 16, TT Nagar, Bhopal. You would like to apply for the post of the Marketing Manager in a reputable firm in Mumbai. Write a letter to the Public Relations Officer, Chaitanya Enterprises, Mumbai, applying for the job. Write the letter in 120 – 150 words giving your biodata.

Answer:

16, T.T. Nagar Bhopal  
7 December 20XX  
The Public Relations Officer  
Chaitanya Enterprises  
Link Road, Versova  
Mumbai 4000XX

Dear Sir

Subject: Application for the post of Marketing Manager

In response to your advertisement in 'The Times of India', dated 5 December 20XX for the post of a marketing manager, I wish to offer my candidature for the same.

I have requisite qualifications and excellent communication skills. I am enclosing a copy of my biodata for your perusal and kind consideration.

I have a passion for marketing and am keen to implement new strategies.

Hoping for a favourable response.

Yours faithfully Prem

Raghuvanshi

Encl.: 1. Photograph

2. Testimonials & Certificates.

3. Resume

### **BIODATA**

Name : Prem Raghuvanshi

Father's Name : Sh. Vineet Raghuvanshi

Date Of Birth : 07 December 1986

Address : 16, Tt Nagar,

Bhopal Ph. 2323xxxx,

Mob. 9823xxxxxx Email Address prem@yahoo.in Marital Status

: Married

Educational : Qualifications:

1. MBA from Time Institute in 2011 with 78%
2. B.Com. from Dungar College, Jaipur in 2008 with 86%
3. Class XII, CBSE in 2005 with 89% (Commerce stream)

4. Class X CBSE in 2003 with 91% Experience: 1. Worked as Marketing Manager at Vistas Enterprises for the last 4 years.

2. Currently working as Marketing Head, Shinaya Enterprises for the last 3 years.

Co-curricular Activities :

1. Sports captain in the school.
2. Participated in declamation and extempore at state level competition in college and won many prizes.

Core Strength :

1. Leadership quality and excellent communication skills.
2. Programme language C, JAVA

Hobbies : Reading, playing outdoor sports Languages known : English, Hindi, French

References :

1. Mr. Rajat Mehra CEO, Vistas Enterprises Delhi Mobile: 9999XXXXXX
2. Mr. Keshav Das MD, Universal Marketing Ltd. Bengaluru, Karnataka Mob. 9899XXXXXX

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### Home work

Write a letter of application in response to the following advertisement which appeared in "TheTimes of India " dated 21 Dec. 21"

Wanted  
Receptionist  
Qualification: Any graduate with knowledge of computer and fluency in  
English and Hindi  
Apply within 10 days to: The Managing Director  
Mangala Group of Companies  
Nagadevanhalli, Ring Road  
Bangalore

Do it yourself

## Formal invitation cards

### Question 1

You are a student of Newton Public School, Nagpur. The school is holding its annual function on Saturday, the 15th November, 20XX at 11 a.m. The HRD Minister Dr M.M. Joshi has consented to be the chief guest. Design an invitation card to be sent to the parents and other invitees. Do not exceed 50 words.

**The Principal, Staff and Students**  
of  
**NEWTON PUBLIC SCHOOL, NAGPUR**  
solicit the pleasure of your company  
on  
the auspicious occasion  
of  
**THE ANNUAL FUNCTION**  
of their school  
at  
**11 a.m. on Saturday, the 15th November, 20XX**  
**Dr M.M. Joshi, HRD Minister, Govt. of India**  
will be the chief guest and give away the prizes to the students.

*RSVP*  
Principal  
Newton Public School, Nagpur  
Phone: 325468

### Question 2

The literary club of your school is putting up the play 'Waiting for Godot'. As secretary of the club, draft an invitation inviting the famous writer Sudeesh Gupta to be the guest of honour at the function. Write the invitation in not more than 50 words. You are Govind/ Gauri.

**THE LITERARY CLUB**  
OF  
**RAMJAS PUBLIC SCHOOL, NEW DELHI**  
Solicits the pleasure of your Company on the occasion of  
*The Play Waiting for Godot* at  
**5:00 pm on Sunday, 18th December, 20xx**  
**Mr. Sudeesh Gupta, the famous writer**  
will be the Guest of Honour.

**R.S.V.P**  
Govind/Gauri  
Ramjas Public School, New Delhi  
Phone: 011-32753217

### Question 3 Informal Letter

Write a letter to your friend inviting him on the house-warming-ceremony of your newly constructed house.

#### Answer:

27, Urban  
Estate Sector  
15Karnal 25  
July, 20XX  
Dear Vineet

I invite you at the house-warming-ceremony of our newly constructed house in Urban Estate. The 'hawan' ceremony is at 10 a.m. It will be followed by lunch at 1.00 p.m. Kindly do join us on this auspicious day. I'll introduce you to my parents and close relatives.

Yours sincerely  
ArunGulati

### Home work

Q1 You are a student of Puna International on School , Gandhinagar. The school is holding its Annual Sportsfunction on 30<sup>th</sup> January 2022 at 10 a.m. The chief Minister of Gujarat Shri Bhupendra Bhai Patel has consented to be the chief guest. Design an invitation card to be sent to the parents and other invitees. Do not exceed 50 words.

Q2. You are a student of Puna International school, Gandhinagar. The school is holding Book fair on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2022. The Education minister of Gujarat has consented to be the chief guest .Design an invitation card to be sent the parents and other invitees . Do not exceed 50 words.

### INFORMAL INVITATION

Q 1 You are Anuroop Verma. Your friend from Japan is staying in the hostel. Invite him to join Diwali celebrations with you at your residence.

#### Answer:

315/2 Raja Gardens  
New Delhi  
25 October, 20XX

Dear Surunayak

You know that Diwali, the festival of lights, is approaching. It gives me great pleasure to invite you to Diwali celebrations at my residence. We shall have great fun.

Do join us for the 'Puja' and Diwali celebrations.

Yours sincerely  
Anuroop Verma

### Home Work

Q 1. You are Manoj. You are going on a picnic with a group of your classmates to Kama Lake, near Karnal.

Write an informal invitation to your friend Mohit to join you on that day.

(i) **WRITING REPLIES**  
**(FORMAL AND INFORMAL)**

**FORMAL REPLY**

Q1 Write a formal reply expressing your inability to attend the birthday celebrations of your friend Samarth Pandya of 1235, Vivekananda Marg, Bangalore. You are Sandeep Prasad

Answer

Mr and Mrs Sandeep Prasad wish to thank Mr & Mrs Samarth Pandya for extending an invitation to the birthday celebrations of their son Akshay at their residence 1235, Vivekananda Marg, Bangalore on 20 March, 20XX and wish the young boy many happy returns of the day but regret their inability to be present personally on account of some previous engagements.

Sandeep Prasad  
16 March, 20XX

**Home work**

Draft a formal reply expressing your inability to attend the inauguration of the showroom 'Repenzal' on Sunday, the 20th July 20XX, at 11 a.m. at B-12, Rohini. You are Naresh Sharma of C-5, G.K.J, Surat and your friend is Marmik. Bansal of 23, Sunder Nagar, Ahmedabad.

**INFORMAL REPLIES**

Q1. You are Naresh / Neena. You have been invited to attend a birthday party of your closest friend. Respond to this invitation.

712 Surya Vihar, Agra  
15 March, 20XX

Dear Samiksha

I have received your invitation for your birthday party on 25 March, 20XX at 5 p.m. at Hotel Janpath. I am extremely happy to know that all our old friends are likely to be there.

I would like to confirm my participation.

Looking forward to the momentous occasion.

With love.

Naresh/Neena

3. You are Parv /Parnika. Your school has been invited to participate in an inter-school On-the-spot painting competition organised by the Lions Club of your district. As General Secretary of the Painting Club of your school, respond to the invitation.

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Sir

This refers to your invitation to our school to participate in the inter-school on-the-spot painting competition. We thank you for inviting us and gladly confirm our participation in this interesting competition.

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General Secretary Painting Club

### **Home work**

You have been invited to an evening bash at the Nirula's by Vibhu, your close friend, to celebrate his selection in Medical College. Respond to the invitation. You are Nitin of 56, Gautama Enclave, New Delhi-56

### **English Projects**

## **CLASS 12 - SESSION 2023-24 PROJECT WORK**

### **ENGLISH**

### **General Instructions:**

1. Use Black waterproof ink.
2. Project should be written in neat handwriting.
3. Take care of paragraphing, punctuation marks and spellings. Paragraphs should be indented.
4. Use neatly covered hardboard file.
5. Page sequence should be strictly followed as : - Cover page, Acknowledgment, Index,  
2 Project content, Bibliography.

### **Undertake one written assignment of 1000-1500 words, which should be structured as given below:**

**A.** The written assignment must be given a title in the form of a question to explore the drama or the chosen short stories/poems in depth.

**B.** The written assignment must follow the structure given below:

- Introduction: - Explanation of the question that has been framed - Reason for choosing the text - Brief explanation of how you intend to interpret the chosen text and literary materials used in the process.

- Main Body – organised and well-structured treatment of the question using appropriate sub-headings.

- Conclusion – comprehensive summary of the points made in the main body. List of suggested assignments for Project Work:

1. Analysis of a theme from any short story/poem in the prescribed texts.
2. Analysis of a character from the drama or any short story/poem in the prescribed texts.
3. Background – historical, cultural, literary context and relevance of the writer/poet chosen.
4. Summary / paraphrase of the chosen text.
5. Appreciation of literary qualities of the chosen text.
6. Identifying with a character in the chosen text and presenting his/her personal perspective.
7. Imagining an alternate outcome or ending or extension of the chosen text and its impact on the plot/setting/characters/mood and tone. 3
8. A script for dramatization, based on the short story/poem chosen.

9. Writing a short story based on a poem.



10. Comparing and contrasting two characters/themes from different short stories/poems of the prescribed texts.

### **Suggestion of some Topics**

1 Evolving food tastes in my neighbourhood

2 Corona pandemic and fall out on families

3. Mental wellness is as important as

physical wellness

4 Brand Mania and teen

agers

5. The 21<sup>st</sup> century and joint families

6. Overuse of digital devices

7. Life of children in slum

areas

8. Child labour - condition in my city

9. How Pandemic changed education ( Interview with teachers and students )

10. Atrocities against women

11. The necessity of homes for orphans and old age people

12. The ideas/ issues highlighted in the chapters/ poems/ dramas can also be developed in the form of a project.

13. Investigations on students reading habits on their academic performance in external examination.

14. Pollution and environment : Role of youth

15. The effect of physical education programmes on the wellbeing of senior secondary students

16. Online shopping mania

- 1) Topic
- 2) Plan
- 3) Research
- 4) Create
- 5) Present

➤ **The topic chosen should allow a research / study element and allow listening and speaking opportunities**

➤ **Research to be done by interview / survey / online investigations / Reading then analysing**

➤ **The report : Research and presentation details**

**1 The report : The portfolio includes the following**

- Cover page - Title of the project
- School details and detail of student
- Statement of purpose / objective /aim
- Acknowledgment
- Certificate of completion under the guidance of teacher
- Action plan for the project
- Questionnaires for interview
- A report on the topic opted for
- List of resource/ Bibliography

## **2 Inclusions**

The photographs that capture the positive learning experience of the student

## **3 Points noted by the examiner while taking the viva**

( Fluency, vocabulary, pronunciation and grammatical accuracy )

Are you able to understand and answer questions independently ( listening )

Are you able to give proper appropriate responses in a conversation (fluency in speaking) Are you competent enough to use multiple tense

How comfortable are you when speaking and expressing yourself ( Confidence ) Are there appropriate pauses and gaps in the way student speaks

## **Distribution of marks:**

Project work 5 marks

Viva 5 Marks

## **Sample projects**

Dear Students,

Here you can find samples of some sample biology investigatory projects prepared by students. You can go through the links and use it for reference to make your project. Please keep in mind that you should do your research to collect information to make the project and not simply use these files. These files are provided with the sole intention of guiding the students on making their projects.

### **Links shared**

1 Evolving food tastes in my neighbourhood <https://youtu.be/gSGp1ejoiyg>

2 Corona pandemic and fall out on families <https://youtu.be/iP9evRLYOLc>

3. Mental wellness is as important as physical wellness <https://youtu.be/SRRBf-md7Js>

4. Brand Mania and teen agers <https://youtu.be/jlqwCMTgQ8o>
5. Champaran Satyagrah <https://youtu.be/N3vIAREzV2M>
6. Lost spring [https://youtu.be/-F8qZx\\_K0XA](https://youtu.be/-F8qZx_K0XA)
- 7 Book review <https://youtu.be/0g58Jrpmxz4>
- 8 Keeping quiet <https://youtu.be/drrRAiWPbeo>
- 9 My Mother at 66 <https://youtu.be/9v-ROhbxc8>
- 10 Linguistic Chavinism <https://youtu.be/EyawmcnlHEk>
- 11 Interview of APJ Adul Kalam [https://youtu.be/a4yG\\_8GgUEQ](https://youtu.be/a4yG_8GgUEQ)