

Answers

	Incorrect word	
correction		
Inactivity is the <u>greater</u> cause of overweight	greater	
greatest		
these days. <u>People</u> physical activity	a-people people's	
<u>had</u> decreased these days. The main reason		b-had
jsjhere are many labour saving devices They <u>does</u> not	c-is	being
want to walk on foot.	d-does	do
They spend <u>enough</u> time sitting and <u>watch</u> television.	e-enough more f-	
Their excess weight watching	watch	
<u>make</u> them sick and they have to spend makes	g-make	
money in medicine.	h-in	on

Unsolved exercises

The following newspaper report has not been edited. There is one error in each line. Underline the error and write the incorrect word and the correction.

Incorrect word correction

A three year old girl has rescued by the police	a-
last Tuesday. She was kidnap by a neighbour	b-
due to ransom. The mother	c- _
inform the police about the missing girl.	d- _
a probe had supervised by the DSP himself.	E- _
Greater than fifty residents were questioned	f- _
Ultimately, Rohit, one of the residents of the colony	
admit the crime and disclosed	g- _
where the girl was hiding	h- _

Omission

Easy Capsule -- Recapitulation of hints like identifying the tense in which the given passage has been written, looking for determiners, prepositions, connectors etc and reading the passage carefully after answering.

Solved exercises

In the passage below one word has been omitted in each line. Put a slash (/) where the word has been omitted. Write the missing word in the space provided.

One thing we all must do to cooperate with police	a- _____	
advice.	b- _____	and pay heed to their
They warn us not touch unidentified, unclaimed	c- _____	
suspicious objects like transistors, brief cases etc.	d- _____	
watch out for abandoned cars, scooters report the	e- _____	we need
such objects to the nearest police control room	f- _____	details
100. One should not touch the objects till the	g- _____	dialing
disposal squad	h- _____	bomb
	arrives.	

Answers

One thing we all must do /to cooperate With/	a- is	police and pay heed
to their advice.	b- the	
They warn us not/touch unidentified,	c- to	
/unclaimed suspicious objects like transistors, brief	d-and	cases etc. we need/
watch out for abandoned cars, scooters /report the	e-to	details/ such objects
to the nearest police control room/ dialing 100.	f-and	One should not touch
the objects till the bomb disposal squad	g-of	
	h-by	
	arrives.	word has been

Unsolved exercises In the passage below one word has been omitted in each line. Put a slash (/) where the word has been omitted. Write the missing word in the space provided. The first one has been done as an example.

The small town was the foot of the mountains. Most the people were farmers. There traders also in the town. Though not rich were happy contended. At one time the peace broken by several robberies. The people frightened The Mayor the town called for a meeting discuss the matter.

at
a-
b-
c-
d-
e-
f-
g-
h-

Sentence reordering Easy Capsule - Recapitulation

of hints like reading the phrases or group of words properly, making several groups of two words relevant to each other reducing the blocks, counting the number of words without missing any of them or adding any of y **Tips**

- 1- First look for the subject (Noun/ Pronoun).
- 2- Look for the helping verb.
- 3- Look for the Main Verb.
- 4- Look for the object (direct & indirect).
- 5- Also look for Wh-word.
- 6- Arrange the words in a meaningful sentence.

Solved exercises

1. Look at the words and phrases below. Rearrange them to form meaningful sentences. The first one has been done as an example.

the watermelon/thirst quenchers/in summers/is/one of the best.

One of the best thirst quenchers in summers is the watermelon.

a- around/it is/96 countries/cultivated in/the world.

b- in Africa/about 5000 years/grown/ago/it was/first.

c- say that/at the/it was grown/some researchers/same time/in India.

d- the travellers/across a desert/it was/when they/used by/travelled.

Answers

a- It is cultivated in 96 countries around the world, b- It was first grown in Africa about 5000 years ago.

c- Some researchers say that it was grown in India at the same time, d- It was used by travellers when they travelled across a desert.

2. (a) water supply/they get/they eat/from/all their/the leaves
 (a) inhabited//tree leaves/so,/by koalas/in areas/of/is high/demand
 (b) one group/it takes/to support/several acres/of koalas/of trees
 (c) can eat/every day/each/one and a half kilograms/adult Koala/up to /of leaves
 AIMS: (a) They get all their water supply from the leaves they eat.
 (a) So, in areas inhabited by Koalas demand of tree leaves is high.
 (b) It takes several acres of trees to support one group of Koalas.
 (c) Each adult Koala can eat one and a half kilograms of leaves every day.

Unsolved exercises

1. **Look at the words and phrases below. Rearrange them to form meaningful sentences.**

- a- no parallel/discipline/of any kind/has
 b- go together/duties/should/discipline/and rights
 c- equally important/should be/treated/for a/they/satisfying life
 d- the other/or ignored/very bad/it will/if one/prove/overlaps

2. **Rearrange the following to form meaningful sentences.**

Peruvian foraging societies were already chewing coca leaves 8,000 years ago foraging societies/Peruvian/8,000 years ago/chewing coca leaves/were already

- (a) showed evidence/of chewed coca/in the northwestern Peru/and calcium richrocks/ruins.
 (b) such rocks/to create lime,/would have been burned/chewed with coca.
 (c) contain a range/coca leaves coca leaves/known as alkaloids/of chemical Compounds.
 (d) of the Incas/for medicinal purposes/of coca leaves/the chewing/was a pastime

3. a) depicted/architecture of/has been/the Veena/about 500 A.D. /in temple

- b) no takers/sadly/instruments/but/of all/this mother/has/today
 c) to whom/there are/students/turn to/few/ can/exponents/the rare
 d) subject in /it is/a subsidiary/ not even/university curricula

4. a) paralytic attack/is/prolonged/main cause/high/of/ blood pressure/the
 b) tongue, lip, and the vocal cords/people effected/can communicate/either with limbs/with a paralytic stroke
 c) to answer/some can/their eyes/even blink

d) nervous system/to the voluntary/due to extensive damages/is impossible/
but in a
few even a small gesture

5. a) left me/my/city/parents/her/with/they/in /went/live/when/to/the

b) morning/to/wake/used/up /the/in/she/me

c) said/in a /prayers/sings song/monotonous/morning/she/her

d) listened/ I /loved /I/voice /because/her

Reported speech

Easy Capsule -Recapitulation of hints like reading the dialogues carefully, identifying the speakers , identifying the types of sentences, following the rules of changing Assertive,Interrogative (Wh-Type and Yes or No Type),Imperative sentences etc. into indirect speech keeping in view the rules related to change of Tenses etc.

Tips:

- > Given dialogue is to be changed into indirect speech.
- > Change the reporting verb.
- > Remove commas and use conjunction.
- > Change the pronouns and verb in the reported speech.
- > Use a (.) at the end of every sentence.

Solved exercises

1. Read the conversation between Rama and Sita. Then report the paragraph that follows.

Rama: I am going to jungle.

Sita: Why?

Rama: I have been banished for fourteen years by father.

Sita: Oh! It is very sad. Can I go with you?

Rama: No. Stay at home to care of my old parents.

On being banished by his father, King Dasharath, Rama told Sita

(a) _____. She asked him (b) _____. Rama told that (c) _____. Sita exclaimed saying it was very bad and asked Rama (d) _____. Rama asked her to stay at home to take care of my old parents.

Answers

a- that he was going to jungle,

b- why he was going to jungle.

c- he had been banished for fourteen years by father, d-

if she could go with him.

2. Read the comic strip given below and complete the paragraph



While making the list of what Charlie wanted from Santa Claus, he asked Patty how everything. (b) _____. She could bet that (c) _____, he would find that she thought Santa (a) _____ all those toys. Patty replied that it was possible as Santa (d) _____ big eastern chain

Answers:

(a) could afford to give away

(b) everything these days is promotion

(c) if the truth were brought out

(d) was being financed by some big eastern chain

Unsolved exercises

Read the conversation between Anita and Prakash. Then report the paragraph that follows.

Anita: What do you want to do this morning?

Prakash: I feel like taking a walk. It's so nice outside.

Anita: Great, let's walk around the lake in the park.

Prakash: It's really rocky here.

Anita: Yes, watch your steps so you don't trip.

Anita asked Prakash (a) _____. Prakash answered that he (b) _____. It was so nice outside. Anita agreed to this and suggested (c) _____. Then Prakash observed that (d) _____. Anita cautioned him to watch his steps.

Newspaper Head lines Easy Capsule -Recapitulation of hints like reading the notes and the passage carefully to understand and complete it. The reporting verbs to be changed. Sometimes voice may be changed ensuring proper connectivity of the information at both ends.

Tips:

- > Identify the time of event whether past or future.
- > Use present perfect, simple past or future time reference.
- > Identify passive/active voice.
- > Connect the expanded headline properly with the whole sentence.

Solved exercise 1:

(a) CAPARO ENTERS US MARKET

The Lord Swaraj Paul Caparo group _____ the North American vehicle market.

(b) PM TO VISIT PAKISTAN ON APRIL 11

Indian Foreign Minister SM Krishna On Sunday informed that prime Minister, Mr Man Mohan _____ in the second week of April 2011.

a- has entered

b- will be going to Pakistan on a three day visit

Unsolved exercises

1. Use the information in the headlines to complete the news items given below.

(a) TV SHOW LANDS BOY IN HOSPITAL

A popular show on a Tamil TV channel _____ a 13 year old boy in hospital, when he filled his mouth with Kerosene and blew it over fire, in an attempt to imitate the show.

(b) 2 KILLED IN BLUELINE ACCIDENTS

_____ bus here on Monday, one, an 18-year-old boy and the other a cyclist.

(c) SIX AIR-INDIA FLIGHTS DELAYED

There was anger, frustration and helplessness amongst nearly a thousand passengers of six Air-India flights _____ for hours at IGI airport.

2. Use the information in the headlines to complete the news items given below.

a- CHINA DEVELOPS MEDICAL ROBOT

A polytechnic university in china _____ that can conduct surgeries.

b- KIDS FALL ILL AFTER EATING MID-DAY MEAL

05 kids of a UP primary school in Mathura District _____ after having mid-day meal on Friday, c- **SPORTS**

WEEK CELEBRATION ENDS

A week long sport day celebration in various schools of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan _____ on 22 April with grand prize distribution ceremony.

d- BUS CRUSHES A GIRL TO DEATH

A four-year-old girl _____ to death when a speedy bus ran over her in Makarpura.

e- 5 LAKH JOBS TO BE CREATED BY 2012 ----- PLANNING COMMISSION

Mr AR Sahni, member of planning commission said yesterday that _____ by the year 2012.

f-INDIAN-AMERICAN WINS DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY IN PHILADELPHIA

Thus, May 20 Iraq war- veteran Indian-American doctor Manan Trivedi(a) _____ the Democratic Party nomination to contest the November elections to the US house of Representatives from Pennsylvania Congressional district.

A doctor-turned war- veteran, Trivedi, 35, (b) _____ Dough Pike, a former local journalist, (c) _____ margin of 672 votes; thus earning the right to challenge Republican of Representatives. Conceding his defeat, Pike in a statement supported Trivedi. The election (d) _____ Tuesday.

- a-i- won
- ii- had won
- iii- has won
- iv- was won
- b-i- had defeated
- ii- been defeated
- iii- was defeated
- iv- defeated
- c-i- through a narrow
- ii- with a narrow
- iii- to a narrow
- iv- in a narrow d-i-
- was held on
- ii- were held on
- iii- been held on
- iv- had been held

Procedure Reporting Easy Capsule -- Recapitulation of hints like reading the instruction carefully, showing carefulness with the tense/time used, writing the rest of sentences in present passive or past passive if the instruction given in the example for the first instruction in present passive or passive respectfully, avoiding mixing of tenses etc.

Tips:

- > Read the given instructions carefully.
 - > Rewrite the process in passive voice.
 - > Know the tense/time used. Hint will be hidden somewhere in the question.
- General verb pattern will be either 'is/are+ III form or 'was/were + III form

Solved exercises

1-Read the following set of instructions for washing the dirty white cotton clothes. Complete the procedure.

- 1- Collect all the dirty white cotton clothes.
- 2- Soak them fully in a boiling water and soap solution.
- 3- Take them out and beat them with fists or stick.
- 4- Then rinse them in running water until the soap content is washed off.
- 5- Squeeze them and hang them for drying.

All the dirty white cotton clothes are collected and (i) _____ of boiling water and soap. They (ii) _____ with fists or stick. Then they (iii) _____ until the soap content is washed off. Then they (iv) _____ for drying.

Answers (Hint-are)

- (i) are soaked in a mixture
- (ii) are taken out and beaten
- (iii) are rinsed in running water
- (iv) are squeezed and hung

2- Read the following instructions for making 'Maggi Noodles' and complete the passage:

- Boil two 500 ml of water in a container.
- Add noodles and taste maker.
- Add finely chopped vegetables after steaming them separately.
- Cook only for two minutes.
- Serve hot.

Firstly, 500 ml of water (a) _____ in a container. After that noodles and taste makers (b) _____. Then finely chopped vegetables (c _____) after steaming them separately. The mixed stuff (d _____) for only two minutes. It is then served hot.

Answers (Hint-is)

- (a) - is boiled
- (b) - are added
- (c) - are added
- (d) -is cooked

Dialogue completion Easy Capsule -

Recapitulation of hints like reading the paragraph as whole, forming a general idea about the paragraph and the tense etc.

Tips:

- > Read the preceding dialogue and the one that follows it.

- > Identify the type of sentence.
- > Make sure entire dialogue is relevant and meaningful.

Solved exercises

Read the following conversation between a brother and a sister. Complete the conversation by choosing the correct option.

Sister When do you want to leave for Mumbai?
 Brother I _____ am leaving the day after tomorrow.
 Sister Where have you decided to stay?
 Brother (a _____) _____
 Sister Why are you not staying with Aunt and Uncle?
 Brother (b _____) _____. I won't be able to enjoy my holidays.
 Sister Don't tell me that you'll stay in a hotel!
 Brother Definitely not (c) _____ .
 Sister How are you both spending your vacation?
 Brother (d) _____ .

a- i-1 won't decide as yet. ii-1 won't decide as yet. iv-1 haven't decided as yet. ii- iii-I hadn't decided as yet. b- i- They were too strict, iii- They are too strict, iv- They are too strict, iii- They will be too strict, iv- They are too funny. c-i-1 plan to stay with aunty & uncle iii-1 plan to stay with Rahul, ii-1 plan to stay in a hotel, iv-1 won't stay with aunty & uncle. d- i- We'll go nowhere, iii- we'll stay nearby. ii- We'll go site seeing, iv- We'll go somewhere.

Answers

- (a) iv-1 haven't decided as yet.
- (b) ii- They are too strict.
- (c) iii-I plan to stay with Rahul.
- (d) ii- We'll go site seeing.

Unsolved exercises

1. Read the following conversation between a doctor and his patient. Complete the conversation by choosing the correct option.

Doctor : How long have you been sick?
 Patient : I have been having this headache (a) _____ one month.
 Doctor : Have you taken any medicine?
 Patient : No I haven't. But I (b)- _____ by an eye specialist.

Doctor	What did he say?
Patient	He said my eyes are fine.
Doctor	(c) sleeping late at night?
Patient	No, I sleep regularly at 10 pm.
Doctor	Have you (d) in the past or lately?
Patient	No but I had injured my head when I was ten years old

- | | |
|------------------------------|--|
| a-i- for the past | FOR PRACTICE ii- since the past |
| iii- during the past | iv- for a past |
| b- i- got my eye | ii- will get my eyes |
| test | iv- would get my eye ii- |
| iii- got my eyes tested c-i- | had you been |
| has you been | iv- have you been |
| iii- had you be d-i- met | ii- meets with an accident |
| with an accident | iv- met with an accident |
| iii- meet with an accident | |

1) Look at the notes given below and complete the paragraph that follows by filling up the blanks with the most appropriate option from those given. 1 x 4 = 4marks

Egyptians discovered paper-made a stalks of tall reed- from wood 'papyrus'- supplies limited-export restricted

The (a) _____ the Egyptians. It (b) _____ reed .The English word 'paper' (c) _____. When supplies were limited a (d) _____ on export.

- (d) 1 paper discovered
 2 discovery of paper was made
 3 discoverer of paper was
 4 papers was discovered by
- (b) 1 makes of stalks of tall
 2 made of stalks of tall
 3 was made of stalks of tall
 4 has made of stalks of tall
- (c) 1 derive from the word 'papyrus'
 2 derives from the word 'papyrus'

3 has derived from the word 'papyrus'

4 is derived from the word 'papyrus'

- (d) 1 restriction imposed
2 restriction is imposed
3 restriction was imposed
4 restriction has imposed

2) Given below is a conversation between David and his friend, Meenu. Complete the dialogue below by filling up the blanks with the most appropriate options from those given. IX 4 == 4

David : Hello. Is this 26857903?

Meenu : Yes, (a) _____ ?

David : Could I speak to Meenu ? I am her friend, David ?

Meenu : David ? It's Meenu . (b) _____ ?

David : I am calling from Indira Gandhi International airport . I'm here for visit.

Meenu : That's great.(c) _____ about your visit ?

David : I wanted to give you a surprise .

Meenu : When did you arrive ? (d) _____ ?

David : I just got here and I am alone.

(a) 1 shall I know to whom do you want to talk

2 will I know which do you want to talk

3 need I know whom do you want to speak to

4 may I know who do you want to speak to

(b) 1 From where you are calling

2 Where you are calling from

3 Are you calling where from

4 You are calling from where

(c) 1 Why you not inform me earlier

2 Why didn't you informed me earlier

3 Why didn't you inform me earlier

4 Why you didn't inform me earlier

(d) 1 Are you being accompanied by some one

2 you are being accompanied by some one

3 Are some one accompanying you

4 Are anyone accompanied you

Gap filling

Easy Capsule — Recapitulation of hints like reading the paragraph as a whole, forming a general idea about the paragraph and the tense of the paragraph and the tense paragraph, usually filling up with articles, prepositions, modals, verbs, nouns, relative pronouns, adjectives, conjunction, auxiliary, pronouns or determiners and finally removing ambiguity if any.

Tips:

- > Read the passage carefully and form a general idea.
- > Mind the tense of the paragraph.
- > Check for subject-verb agreement

Solved exercises

Fill in the blanks with the most appropriate option from those given below.

1. Complete the passage given below choosing the correct alternatives: 34 x 8 = 4 marks

Tokyo was rocked by its (a)-----earthquake in more than a year today, but escaped (b) -----little damage because it (c) -----centered far beneath the floor of the Pacific Ocean .The quake (d) -----struck shortly before noon with a magnitude of 6.6 ,(e)-----large buildings sway back and forth . The intense (f) ----- for about one minute caught people (g) ----- guard in Tokyo and other cities (h) -----east.

(a) 1 big (b) 1 from (c) 1 is (d) 1 who 2 bigger 2 by 2
was 2 whom
3 biggest 3 with 3 has 3 whose
4 very big 4 for 4 have 4 which

(e) 1 make (f) 1 shake (g) lin of 4shook 4
2 made t off
3 send 2
4 sent shaker 2 on (b) with (c) was
ANS: 3 shaking 3 (h) 1
to
(e) made (f) shaking (g) off 2 toward
(a) bigges s

3for
4forward

- (d) which
- (h) towards

FOR PRACTICE

(1) In fruit farms fruits are picked before they are fully ripe for otherwise they (a) ----- become overripe or decay (b) ----- reaching customers. Fruit picked too young (c) ----- never ripen. It's a problem to predict whether a certain fruit will ripen (d) ----- not. Now a scanner has (e) ----- — developed which can predict those fruits (f) ----- ultimately will ripe so that farmer (g) ----- sort out future fruits from the too-green .The scanner works (h) — a ripeness predictor.

- | | | | |
|------------|-------------|------------|-----------|
| (a) 1 must | (b) 1 while | (c) 1 will | (d) 1 and |
| 2 shall | 2 after | 2 are | 2 or |
| 3 may | 3 when | 3 being | 3 but |
| 4 should | 4 before | 4 were | 4 so |

- | | | | |
|-------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| (e) 1 being | (f) 1 who | (g) 1 can | (h) 1 for |
| 2 been | 2 whom | 2 need | 2 by |
| 3 be | 3 that | 3 dare | 3 so |
| 4 was | 4 whose | 4 shall | 4 as |

ANS: (a) ----- (b) ----- (c) ----- (d) -
(e) — ----- (f) ----- (g) ----- (h) -

2) -----Cataract is a (a) -----
in the lens of the eye. Today, modern (b) -----
advances have made cataract surgery very successful. The cause of the
cataract (c) ----- are not fully known. It is basically (d) ----- ageing
phenomenon .Next to old age (e) ----- other factors like deficiency of food
like proteins (f) -----vitamins ,some toxic drugs and general diseases (g)—
---- diabetes infections and injuries. Nourishing diet rich (h)----- proteins
and vitamins can delay the onset of cataract.

- | | | | |
|--------------|----------------|---------------|---------|
| (a) 1 opaque | (b) 1 medicine | (c) 1 forming | (d) 1 a |
| 2 opaqued | 2 medicinal | 2 formed | 2 an |
| 3 opaqueness | 3 medical | 3 forms | 3 the |
| 4 opacity | 4 medicated | 4 formation | 4 some |

(e) 1 is	(f) 1 or	(g) 1 like	(h) 1 at
2 was	2 and	2 so	2 on
3 are	3 but	3 as	3 with
4 were	4 so	4 such	4 in

ANS: (A)----- (b)----- (c) -----(d)-----
(e) —----- (f)----- ..----- (h) _

SECTION D: LITERATURE Syllabus for TERM I (SA I)

FICTION TWO GENTLEMEN OF VERONA

-A J Cronin

Two Gentlemen of Verona is a touching story of Jacopo and Nicola, two brothers aged 12 and 13, who do odd jobs and live a hard life themselves to sustain and treat their elder sister Lucia, who is suffering from tuberculosis of the spine.

A J Cronin uses the title of William Shakespeare's famous play, The Two Gentlemen of Verona in an ironic manner. Cronin's portrayal of these modern "gentlemen" of Verona re-defines the concept of what it means to be a gentleman, Cronin shows us that one may polish boots or sell newspapers, but it is the magnanimity of heart and the nobleness of purpose that actually determines whether one is a true "gentleman".

The story recounts the hard life chosen by the two young boys so that they could pay for the treatment of their sister afflicted with tuberculosis. The boys exhibit sincerity and devotion to the cause and the maturity they display in their actions gives a new hope for humanity.

The writer and his friend are stopped at the outskirts of Verona by two small boys when they drive through lower hills of the Alps. The boys are brothers Nicola, the elder and Jacopo, the younger one. They were selling wild strawberries. Next time when they meet the boys, they are polishing shoes in the public square. Interacting with them, the writer comes to know that they do various tasks. One mid night, they see the boys resting on the stone of a footpath. Nicola sat tired with a bundle of unsold newspapers. His brother was sleeping by putting his head on Nicola's shoulder. The narrator asks the boys if they save the money for emigration to America, they deny and say that they

have other plans. The writer offers them help for which Jacopo asks him to drop them at Poleta by their car. The writer accepts their request.

The next afternoon, they reach the village located on a hill. The two boys are dropped from the car. After sometime, the writer follows them and finds from the nurse about the two boys and their sister. She tells him that their father, a famous singer died in the war. A bomb had destroyed their home. They had a cultured life, but due to the war, they were left alone on road. Lucia was a good singer, but now she is suffering from tuberculosis and the boys are working hard day and night for the treatment of their sister. Their selfless action, nobility and devotion touch the writer's heart and show a greater hope for mankind.

Read the following extracts and answer the questions that follow by choosing the option you consider most appropriate:

1) One boy had on a worn jersey and cut-off khaki pants; the other a shortened army tunic gathered in loses folds about his skinny frame. Yet gazing at the two little figures, with their brown skin, tangled hair and earnest eyes, we felt ourselves strangely attracted

(1) One boy had on:

- (a) a new jersey
- (b) a worn jersey and a khaki pants
- (c) a coat and a pant
- (d) a sweater and a blue pant.

(2) The other boy had:

- (a) a robust body
- (b) a swollen head
- (c) a stout frame
- (d) a skinny frame

(3) The narrator and his companion gazed at:

- (a) two shopkeepers
- (b) two things
- (c) two little figures
- (d) two beggarly women

Ans: 1) b) a worn jersey and cut off khaki pant 2)d) a skinny frame3) c) two

little figures

Answer the following questions in about 30-40 words.

1) What did the narrator's companion discover about the boy?

Ans: The narrator's companion discovered that the boys were real brothers. The elder brother Nicola was 13 years old while the young Jacopo was 12 years old. Their rags and shabby appearance display their acute poverty.

2) How can you say that the boys were willing workers?

Ans: The boys did their independent job. They shined shoes in the scorching heat. They sold strawberries and conducted the tourism round of the town. They sold newspapers in the stormy nights. They changed their work at will. That's why they can be called willing workers.

3) Why didn't the narrator go inside?

Ans: The boy's sister was admitted into the hospital. The boys did not like to share their secret with the narrator. The narrator had no desire to expose them. Moreover he could not bear to intrude upon their happy family meeting. Therefore he preferred to stay out.

4) Why did the boys hate the Germans? How did they react against them?

Ans: The Germans had bombed their city and had destroyed their home. Their father was also killed in the war. The boys and their sister were thrown in the streets. The boys were forced to live in a shelter. Then the Germans became the rulers. Therefore the boys hated the Germans. To show their hateful reaction they joined the resistance movement.

UNSOLVED

B) Answer the following in 30-40 words each:

- 1 Why did the driver not approve of their buying fruit from the boys?
- 2 When did the author's companion find out that the boys were brothers ?
3. What were the jobs the boys did to earn money?.
4. What attracted the visitors towards the boys ?
- 5 Where did the author meet the two boys for the first time? What were they doing?
6. Why was the author surprised to see Nicola and Jacopo working as shoe shines?
7. How were the boys useful to the author?
8. Why did the author say that what struck one most was their willingness to

work?

9. Why were the boys out in the deserted square at night?

10. Were the boys quite happy to work? Which sentence tells you this?

11. What made the author think that they were earning much?

12. Why did Nicola say "just plans" when the author asked them what their plans were?

13. Who asked the author to drive them to Poleta? Did the other brother approve of the request? Why?

14. Did the boys try to prevent the author from finding out the real purpose of their visit to

Poleta? Did they succeed?

15. How did the war affect the boys' family?

16. How did the boys take care of their sister?

17. Do you think the two boys enjoyed what they were doing? Why do you think so?

18. How does the story of the Two Gentlemen of Verona give promise of greater hope for

human society?

19. How can you say that the boys worked quite hard?

20. What did the narrator tell the narrator?

21. How was the life of the boys comfortable and cultured?

22. How did the boys react to the Lucia's suffering from the tuberculosis of the spine?

23. What happened when the boys rejoined the narrator?

C) Long answer type questions:

1. Write a paragraph on the early life of the two boys.

Hints:

Father a widower well-known singer killed in war ... bomb blast destroyed house... boys and sister left to the streets ... suffered ... horribly ... starvation

2. Write a note on the character of Nicola and Jacopo.

The following hints will help you:

motherless loss of father sufferings loss of their house ... made their own shelter willing to do any job ... their devotion to ... their sister.... dedication patriotic ... proud... did not want sympathy...

2. Narrate the story of Two Gentlemen of Verona beginning with their experience during the war in about 200 words. You may use the following hints for your essay.

Nicola and Jacopo ... sons of a well-known singer and widower... only sister Lucia ...father killed ... house destroyed ... children left to the streets starved horribly a shelter....built by themselves ... boys did different jobs. The visitors make friends their willingness to work one midnight deserted square wanted to sell newspapers earning moneyrequest author to take them to the country ...Drive to the country ... the boys leave the author waiting ... he follows ... discovers the secret.

3. A J Cronin came to know the story of the two boys from the nurse in the story 'Two Gentlemen of Verona'. Imagine that the boys themselves narrated the story to AJ Cronin. Write the story in the words of the boys. You may begin like this.

We were living happily in our

5. Yet in both these boyish faces there was a seriousness which was far beyond their years. Does this sentence signal anything to you? Now use the following hints:

Boys simple ... aged 13 and 12 ... sense of responsibility though too youngdoing anything.

MRS. PACKETIDE'S TIGER

-SAKI

Mrs. Packetide's Tiger by Saki (HH Munro) is a short story in which one character's disloyalty to another proves the crux of the plot. Set mostly in Colonial India, the author aims to highlight and ridicule the pretentious nature of the upper classes of Edwardian society. With sophisticated language, we are encouraged ingeniously to dislike Mrs. Packetide, who endeavours to shoot a tiger in order to upstage her rival Loona Bimberton. The satirical tone employed throughout the story enables us to applaud her gullibility at the hands of her paid companion, Miss Mebbin.

From the beginning the satirical tone employed increases our dislike of the petty Mrs. Packetide whose motive for shooting a tiger was that her rival Loona Bimberton had recently flown in an "aeroplane by an Algerian aviator." This feat

in those times was considered not only a daring and brave feat (because aeroplanes had just been invented and were nothing like the comfortable, reliable modes of transport they are today) but Saki's tone also shows us his repulsion of these classes by implying that this feat of Loona Bimberton's was only a show of bravery. The word "carried" suggests she had to be helped and coaxed along the way and in the end it was only her greed for the fame it would bring her that made her do it. The alliteration highlights Mrs. Packletide's outrage at being battered by a rival and we see her petty nature emerge from beneath her mask of society's fashion.

Our dislike of Mrs. Packletide's character increases as the story continues along with Saki's sarcasm. The word "ostensibly" used by the author to describe how Mrs. Packletide is planning to show off the tiger skin rug to her friends seemingly in order to honour Loona Bimberton, is really an excuse to show off to her rival and upstage her. Similarly her offer of a thousand rupees for the chance to shoot a tiger "without much risk or exertion" shows the extravagance of this ridiculous expedition on which she is intent and reminds us of her shallow nature. This detail allows the author's theme to grow, showing us the stupid side of Mrs. Packletide. She has no sense of the value of money or the actual excitement of hunting: the hunt, the chase, the kill.

Saki then introduces Mrs. Packletide's paid companion, Miss Mebbin as having a: "morbid dread of performing an atom more service than she had paid for." This statement of Miss Mebbin's nature immediately creates in our minds a stingy, strict, sneering, cold-hearted woman. It also suggests she is observant and cautious, not for others but for herself. The title "Miss" combined with the detailed description of her thrifty nature creates an image of a mean old spinster. The idea that she is greedy is highlighted in the way he writes that she: "adopted a protective elder-sister attitude to money."

Saki is suggesting that on the surface, she is unthreatening but in truth she cares for money so much she treats it as a person, a sibling even. This revelation prepares us for her betrayal of Mrs. Packletide.

On the night of the shoot Mrs. Packletide reassures Miss Mebbin of the lack of danger showing that Mrs. Packletide knows how much of a farce this expedition really is. Miss Mebbin wasn't actually mortally afraid but rather was concerned in case she missed a bonus in her pay. The shooting's absurd nature is highlighted even more when Saki introduces the added detail of Mrs. Packletide playing "Patience" with cards as she awaits the old decrepit tiger to go for the obvious bait. In the end Mrs. Packletide misses the stationary tiger -

and kills the bait instead! However, the tiger dies of a heart attack because of the loud gun report. Mrs. Packletide ignores this fact and claims she shot the tiger, assuming Miss Mebbin will not say a word as she is merely a "paid companion." The villagers keep quiet so as not to jeopardise their reward.

Upon returning to England Mrs. Packletide has her revenge and gains admiration from everyone except, of course, Loona Bimberton. Once the fuss has died down we begin to see Mrs. Packletide enjoying happiness and we beg for repercussions. Saki answers our plea! Miss Mebbin returns to her old boss to blackmail her into paying for an idyllic cottage, which she does, promptly. We cheer enthusiastically!

In my view Saki achieved his goal superbly. By making Mrs. Packletide such a fake show-off with his sardonic tone and extravagant language, we grow hateful of her. Her petty, selfish nature annoys us and the extremes she will go to achieve her aims are deplorable. Although Miss Mebbin is a nasty piece of work herself, we still support her disloyalty towards Mrs. Packletide because it results in her comeuppance. The betrayal of Mrs. Packletide gives us the ending we want to this humorous story and leaves us in no doubt as to Saki's feelings towards the upper classes.

II) Answer the following question in about 30-40 words.

A) Why did Mrs. Packletide want to kill a tiger?

Ans: Loona Bimberton had enjoyed a joy ride in an aero plane with Algerian pilot. She always boasted of this feat. Mrs. Packletide had a strong dislike of Loona. She wanted to outshine Loona by attempting a much daring feat. Therefore she wished to kill a tiger.

B) How did the circumstance prove favourable for Mrs. Packletide?

Ans: An old tiger use to roam about in the jungle around the village. It was too old and weak to kill a big game. So it use to feed itself on goats ,sheep ,and other domestic animals Mrs. Packletide availed herself of the god sent opportunity .She made efforts to obtain the tiger. Hence, the circumstances proved favorable for her.

C) In what two ways did Mebbin show her elder sister's attitude during the tiger's hunt?

Ans: Miss Louisa Mebbin was a paid companion of Mrs. Packletide .She had adopted a protective elder sisterly attitude towards money in general .She smartly intervened in preventing Mrs. Packletide from paying unnecessary tips in

some Moscow hotel. She pointed out that Mrs. Packletide has wrongly paid a thousand rupees for the old, weak, and ailing tiger.

D) What did Louisa Mebbin plant in her garden? Why did she do so?

Ans: Louisa Mebbin exploited the situation .She threatened Mrs. Packletide that she would pass on her discovery to Loona Bimberton .To keep her mouth shut Mrs. Packletide bought a cottage for her -Mebbin named the cottage ,Les Fauves (wild beast) She planted tiger lilies there .It reminded her of the secret of the tiger's death every time .

III) Long Answer Question:

Mrs. Packletide's tiger is indeed a humorous story. Saki, the author employs several techniques to bring in the element of humour. Mention three incidents in the story you find most humorous and the reasons for calling them humorous? (Word limit: 150)

Ans: Mrs. Packletide Tiger is a humorous story from the beginning to the end Mrs. Packletide \s motive for killing the tiger is preposterous as it had become a prestige issue. None of them wanted to face the reality. The pettiness and hunger for publicity of the characters evoke laughter. The publicity achieved by the two arch rivals surpassed their achievements is quite funny as compared to their dubious talents. Also, the way in which the villagers connive with the theory that the tiger had indeed died by Mrs. Packletide's shot so as to earn the promised thousand rupees evokes laughter. Last but not the least, Louisa's naming the cottage 'Les fauves¹ and growing tiger- lilies as a constant reminder of her victory over her arch rival are some of the incidents of humour.

UNSOLVED:

I) Short answer type questions:

1. What were the circumstances which compelled Mrs. Packletide to undertake the tiger shooting expedition?
2. What happened at the tiger shooting spot? What were the benefits and difficulties Mrs. Packletide has after the event?
3. What were the humorous elements in the story?
4. Was Mrs. Packletide an Indian or a foreigner? How do you know?
5. Who was Loona Bimberton? What was Mrs. Packletide's attitude to her?
6. What did Mrs. Packletide want to do before she left the country?

7. What seemed to happen when the rifle 'flashed out' what really happened?
8. Why did Mrs. Packletide dress the way she did for the country ball?
9. Describe the three steps taken by the villagers to keep the tiger in good humour?
10. How did Mrs. Packletide react to Loona Bimberton's adventure?
11. What causes the tiger's death?
12. What was Mrs. Packletide's plan to do after shooting the tiger?
13. Why did Loona Bimberton refuse to look at the illustrated weekly?

III) Long answer type questions:

1. Do you agree with the view that the author ridicules the pretentious nature of the upper class of then prevailing society? Justify your answer.
2. Describe the character of Mrs. Packletide.
3. At the end of the story we develop hatred towards Mrs. Packletide. What is the reason for this? Explore the elements in the story.
4. "The pettiness and hunger for publicity of the characters evoke laughter." Justify your answer quoting from the lesson Mrs. Packletide's Tiger.
5. In "Mrs. Packletide's Tiger," Saki (H.H. Munro) tackles the human beings' fascination with wild-game hunting, as well as the timeless drive to keep up with the Bimberton's. Discuss.
6. What sort of an attempt did Mrs. Packletide make? What was the result?
7. Differentiate Loona Bimberton and Mrs. Packletide.
 8. Suppose you are Mrs. Packletide. Years later you think of tiger hunt-episode. You decide to write in your diary what led you to give up the big game of hunting. Write a page of Mrs. Packletide's diary.
 9. Suppose you are Miss Mebbin. Your cottage is the wonder and admiration of your friends. Write a page of your diary recording how you managed to buy a pretty week-end cottage and maintain it so well.

THE LETTER -

DHUMAKETU

Coachman Ali is the central character of the story, The Letter. He is unable to bear the pain of separation when his daughter Miriam leaves him after her marriage. He feels lonely. He desperately waits for her letter, but in vain. The story shows the need for love, sympathy, and fellow-feeling for those who are in pain. The grief and the long waiting lead to Ali's death in the end.

Dhumaketu has portrayed the reality of life by his lively imagination, invested it with emotion, and touched it with a romantic idealism. His story casts an irresistible spell by the freshness of its theme, style and technique, a rich variety of incident, plot and situation, and its diverse world of distinctly individual characters, brilliant and idealistic.

Gist of the lesson

(Para 1-12) - Ali's never ending wait for news from Miriam The story begins with a description of the long and arduous journey that Ali makes every day to the post office in the hope of receiving a letter from his daughter Miriam who has not been in touch with him since her marriage 5 years ago. He starts early when the whole town is asleep. Though he is poor and old, his faith and love for his daughter makes him bear the bitter cold as he plods supporting himself on a staff.

The post office becomes his place of pilgrimage .He dedicatedly goes there for five long years, sits there through the day ,is mocked and jeered at by the post office employees as he sits at a specific place each day.

He is treated like a mad man by everyone and is the object of ridicule for one and all. They think that he comes in vain to receive a letter that would never come. They would call out his name falsely to indicate that he has received a letter and enjoy the disappointment on his face.

(Para 13-15)-Ali-a changed man

Ali was a skilled and clever hunter once .He was so addicted to hunting that he couldn't spend a single day without hunting, -something he was very good at. As he grew older he began to change .His only daughter Miriam married and left him to stay with

her soldier husband from a regiment in Punjab .He transforms completely and feels lonely in her absence. Hunting no longer interests him. He understands the meaning

of love and separation when he misses his daughter and in the simple hope of receiving a letter from her someday he goes to the post office religiously. Although he has never received a letter, he keeps at it.

(Para 16-30) -Misery at the post office

The post office becomes a place of pilgrimage for him because of the devotion and regularity with which he comes to visit it. Receiving a letter from his daughter becomes the sanctimonious purpose of his life.Nobody at the post office seems to understand Coachman Ali. They are indifferent and use him only

as a subject of their ridicule and derision. They just want to enjoy the sight of him jumping to the sound of his name. They just have fun and laughter at his expense, never for once trying to understand his pain. But Ali, does not pay heed to the cruel treatment that he receives and with ceaseless faith and endurance he comes daily to the post office even if to go empty handed. The post office employees simply write him off as a mad man before the post master.

(Para 31-51) - Ali embraces death -remains hopeful. Towards the end of his life Ali suffers from ill health and stops coming for a while. People at the post office— have no sympathy, understanding or concern to try and guess the reason but are curious to know why he hasn't come. At last he returns on recovering a little but signs of ill health, old age and approaching end can be seen on his face. He can no longer remain patient and pleads with the ill- tempered postmaster asking him if there was a letter for him The postmaster who is in a hurry gets irritated and calls him a pest. He is very rude to Ali and thoughtlessly and angrily scolds him. Ali is sad and helpless. His patience is exhausted but his faith remains intact. Before departing that day, Ali gives five gold guineas to Lakshmi Das -the office clerk and extracts a promise from him to deliver his daughter's letter at his grave. Ali is never seen again as he dies before receiving any letter (Para 52-72)—Poetic Justice (a literary device that shows an ironic twist of fate intimately related to a character's own conduct. The postmaster who was rude to Ali suffers just like Ali did)Time takes a turn. The postmaster is restless and anxious because he has not received any news from his daughter who is in another town and is unwell. He anxiously looks through the mail only to find Miriam's letter addressed to Ali. He immediately recalls the past and realizes the pain and anguish Ali must have gone through. A single night spent in anxiety makes him understand Ali's heart and soul. He is filled with a deep sense of remorse and repentance for having been rude to Ali. He decides to hand over the letter himself to Ali. He hears a soft knock on the door at 5—thinks it is Ali who has come to receive the letter. He opens the door immediately and sees old Ali bent with age standing outside. Actually it is a hallucination that the postmaster gets. He is fearful and astonished to see the unearthly look on Ali's face. Ali disappears as he came leaving the postmaster in a state of utter shock.

Lakshmi Das, the clerk is shocked to hear the postmaster call out the name of Coachman Ali who has now been dead for three months. The letter is found near the door. Lakshmi Das tells him about his last meeting with Ali to convince him. That evening both of them go to place the letter on Ali's grave. The postmaster

understands the essential human worth of letters and doesn't just treat them as envelopes and postcards anymore. Part of his penance is to keep waiting for the letter from his daughter.

II) Answer in 30-40 words:

a) What kind of life did Ali lead as a young man?

As a young man, Ali had been a clever and skilled hunter. He was always successful in finding a partridge where others had failed. His sharp sight could spot a hare crouching low in a bush, when even dogs failed to see it. He hunted animals mercilessly.

b) When and why did he change his attitude?

His attitude changed when his daughter Miriam got married and shifted to another place. Then, he realized the pangs of separation and concluded that the world was made of love and sorrow. He left his old ways of hunting and now kept waiting for his daughter's letter.

c) How was the postmaster a changed person in the end?

The post master now saw through Ali's heart. He also realized Ali's feelings, while waiting for his own daughter's news, who was ill in another town. He now understood Ali's pain and agony that he experienced, while waiting for the letter. He was no longer ill-tempered as he was in the beginning.

UNSOLVED

II. Short Answer questions in about 30-40 words:

1. Highlight Ali's character traits as a Shikari.
2. What was the reason behind Ali's transformation?
3. Why was Ali considered to be a madman by the post office officials?
4. What was the attitude of the postmaster towards Ali?
5. Ali had 'exhausted his patience but not his faith'. Explain.
6. What do we understand about Ali's character from his regular visits to the post office in spite of all the humiliation that he faced?
7. How Ali's faith is finally vindicated?
8. The haughty temper of the official had quite left him'. What change came about in the official and how?

9. 'He dropped it as though it had given him an electric shock'. What is being referred to?

Why was it such a shock?

10. What promise did Ali extract from the clerk and how did he ensure that the promise is fulfilled?

11. What significant lesson did the postmaster's experience teach him?

12. How did doubt and remorse trouble the otherwise cold and merciless postmaster?

13. The officials at the post office had much fun at the expense of Ali. Cite two examples to prove this.

14. What was the postmaster's state of mind after he had given Ali's letter to Lakshmi

Das for delivering it to him

III) LONG ANSWER QUESTIONS:

1. Elucidate on the happiness Ali would've felt had the letter come before his death

2. Comment on the vivid phases of Ali's transition

3. Do you think Miriam had deliberately left her father? Why? Why not?

4. Do you think Ali had a peaceful death? Why? Why not?

5. Make a character analysis of the Post Master.

6. AN is a true representative of modern parents who are abandoned by their children. Explain.

7. The newly awakened father's heart in him was reproaching him for having failed to understand Ali's anxiety'. As the postmaster write a diary entry outlining your feelings about your former behaviour with Ali.

8. Imagine you are Ali .You are completely exhausted by your futile visits to the Post Office. Write a letter to your friend Ashraf telling him about the disappointment and humiliation that you undergo every day at the Post Office and your decision to not go there anymore.

9. Justify the title- The Letter

10. Imagine that Ali writes a letter to his daughter Miriam after he hands over the five guineas to the clerk at the post office. Write his letter.

11. Imagine you are Lakshmi Das. You have finally fulfilled the promise that you

made to Ali. Write a letter to your friend expressing how satisfied and relieved you are

12. Imagine Ali writes his diary daily. He feels disgusted with life in going to the post office and waiting daily for Miriam's letter which never comes. This feeling of utter despair has been triggered by the Postmaster's insult. Ali writes his diary page that evening. Write that page.

13. After 5 years, Miriam writes a letter to her father, expressing her personal problems for which she could not write. Write the letter on behalf of Miriam.

14. Lakshmi Das writes a letter to Miriam, mentioning the sudden death of her father Ali. Write the letter, giving details of Ali's sufferings and hardships.

POETRY

THE FROG AND THE NIGHTINGALE

-VIKRAM SETH

Vikram Seth is a well-known poet in India. He was born in 1952 in Calcutta (Kolkata). The poem The Frog and the Nightingale is from his book of poems called *Beastly tales from Here and There* (1991). As the title makes it explicit that the poems are based on narratives from various parts of the world, Greece, China, India and Ukrain not to mention the fantasy world of Gup. The poems highlight the tension between good and evil. These tales in verse are simple to read and are like the fables, teaching important lessons of life. The poem under study portrays the cunning frog and the Naive Nightingale who pays the price of her innocence by losing her purity, her originality and ultimately her life.

Gist of the Poem

(Lines 1-34)

Once upon a time a frog living in Bingle Bog (marshy area) croaked away in his unpleasant voice all night. The other creatures hated his voice and did everything in their power to make him quiet-threw sticks, stones, prayed, insulted, complained, threw bricks but all in vain. Nothing could stop the frog from minstrel ling (singing) all night in his harsh voice. One night his renditions were interrupted when a Nightingale perched itself on the Sumac Tree and burst into the most melodious song ever heard under the Sumac Tree. The other creatures of the Bingle Bog unused to such sweet voice heard her mesmerized by the beauty of the song. Creatures from all over the forest were drawn towards the bird's song and asked for a repeat performance. Toads, Tiddlers, teals Ducks and Herons cheered her song. Not used to praise the Nightingale kept giving

performance the whole night. Next night when the nightingale got ready for the performance (She had all the mannerisms of an artist-clearing of throat, adjusting the mike, her appearance).

(Lines 35-60)

The Frog made his presence felt introduced himself as the owner of the tree, known also for his deep voice and as a columnist for the Bog Trumpet (Magazine). Highly impressed by the Frog's credentials, the Nightingale was too eager to hear about his opinion. The Frog without mincing any words criticized her art as a professional. Nightingale being too naive believed and defended herself by claiming to be original. The Frog brushed her claims aside and told her in no uncertain terms that without his guidance she would be nobody.

(Lines 61-84)

Unable to hide her excitement at her good luck, the nightingale accepted the honour of being trained by a musician of repute!The frog made it very clear that he would be charging a modest fee but assuring her that she would be able to pay back. So the Nightingale began her career as a performer-infused with confidence, filled with a zest for performance and inspired by the fawning, sang and became a sensation overnight.

The magical quality of her song attracted creatures of the Bingle Bog from far and wide

The opportunist frog cashed on the crowd and started charging admission fee. The arrogant and heartless frog never let an opportunity to make the Nightingale realize who was in control. Without a care for the bad weather, he would order her to practice, push her to her limit. In his role of a patron he became a hard task master, pushing the Nightingale to the verge of collapse.

(Lines 85-110)

Day after Day this went on, the Nightingale now sleep deprived and exhausted went

on performing.The Sumac tree of Bingle Bog was humbled (honoured)by the presence of the elite of the Bingle Bog (Poet is being sarcastic about people who come to see musical performance only for the sake of showing off jewels, without little bit of interest in the art. Employing the pun on words the poet lists few royal titles-Duke, Count, Cardinal, Mallord, Earl who visited the Sumac tree to hear the Nightingale perform. On one hand the Frog was happy as his business was so profitable on the other hand he was jealous of the success of the Nightingale. His greed made him unreasonable, every day he would point out her flaws, criticized her singing, advised her on the technique; remind her of her goal

of being successful and how much she owed him.

(Lines 111-140)

This constant badgering by the Frog robbed the Nightingale of her creativity. She started sounding bored, uninspired and no amount of mannerism could revive the audience. The cash collection started falling and the disinterested applause of few who still were coming gave her no happiness. It made her sorrowful and depressed. The frog was livid as his business was getting affected. He lost his temper and became cruel. He asked her to follow trends and give the people what they wanted. The Nightingale tried very hard, collected her wits about her, performed but alas she burst a vein and collapsed. The calculative Frog quickly washed his hands off the Nightingale. He pointed out how the Nightingale was a stupid creature, he tried to teach her but she was very nervous, easy on the ear and gullible. He became a little brazen as he pointed out the Bird should have known that one's song should be one's own (meaning -You can't let other people dictate your life. She should have known when to say no.) The manipulative Frog not only cleared himself of all responsibility of the Bird's death but also made it appear that the bird was responsible for her death. He projects himself as a confident, practical and wise creature who sings with a elan! Hence the Frog resumed his position in the Bog and continued to blare out in his harsh and unpleasant voice undisputed and unrivalled. The moral of the poem is that one has to pay for one's gullibility. Being inspired and influenced by someone unknown and stranger is indeed a foolish work. The nightingale had to suffer for her misjudgment. If our self-image is based on what others make us believe we are, we will always be misguided. It is important to know your own worth. The Nightingale's gullible servile nature results in her tragic death. The pompous, scheming frog plans her destruction after winning her trust. Lack of confidence and good judgement of character can bring misery from which there is no escape.

Frog:

He has been portrayed as arrogant, pompous, haughty, patronizing, opportunist, condescending and boastful.

He is used to his position of the only singer of the Bingle Bog

The entry of the melodious nightingale is an eye opener

Being practical and worldly wise he uses his position to influence her

He impresses upon her his superiority by discussing her art condescendingly

He manipulates the situation to his advantage, starts making profit by charging admission fee.

His haughtiness is evident when he doesn't tolerate any slips on the nightingale's part.

He gradually works on the nightingale's weakness- of being rich and Famous (downfall of many)

A smooth talker brushes away the blame of nightingale's death by philosophising it that 'your song must be your own'

Nightingale

She is portrayed as the innocent, naive, gullible, polite, unsure, timid, shy and nervous type.

The taste of appreciation enhances her self-esteem making her gullible.

The desire to impress makes her blind to the faults of the frog.

Her purity, originality and piousness get shadowed by the greed for status and commercial success.

Trapped in the vicious circle of success, she pushes herself to a point of exhaustion.

Addicted to her status, unable to get out of the clutches of the frog she tries- The misguided efforts result in her death.

1. Read the given stanzas and choose the correct option from the list of options given:

Trembling, terrified to fail,
Blind with tears, the nightingale Heard him out in silence, tried,
Puffed up, burst a vein, and died.

1. The nightingale was terrified of:

(a) failure (b) humiliation (c) losing her confidence (d) frog's anger

2. The most appropriate word that describes the nightingale's character is:

(a) foolish (b) diffidence (c) humble (d) obedient

3. The nightingale died due to:

(a) lack of sleep (b) bursting of a vein (c) humiliation (d) grief

1. Answers

(a) frog's anger (b) foolish (c) bursting of a vein

2. Well, poor bird she should have known

That your song must be your own That's why I sing
with panache :

Koo-oh-a h! ko-ash! ko-ash!

And the foghorn of the frog Blared unrivalled
through the bog

(a) The nightingale is referred to as a poor bird because she

- (a) couldn't earn much money
- (b) couldn't impress her audience
- (c) died due to humiliation
- (d) was too prone to influence and was foolish

(b) The meaning of the word 'Panache'

- (1) Lack of confidence
- (2) very confident
- (3) patience
- (4) very loud sound

(c) The traits of the frog reflected in the poem are _____

- (i) simplicity and innocence
- (ii) stupidity and foolishness
- (iii) sympathy and kindness
- (iv) cunningness and cruelty

2. Answers:

- (a) she was too prone to influence and was foolish
- (b) very confident
- (c) cunningness and cruelty

3. Dumbstruck sat the gaping frog
And the whole admiring bog
Stared towards the sumac, rapt
And, when she had ended, clapped

1. The animals of the Bog were dumbstruck because -----

- (a) The frog sang very well
- (b) The nightingale sang melodiously
- (c) The moon shone brightly
- (d) All the animals came to the same place

2. "Whole Admiring Bog" means -----

- (a) Creatures of the bog who hated the nightingale's song
- (b) Creatures of the bog who liked the frog's song
- (c) Creatures of the bog who admired the nightingale's song

3. Everyone stared at the sumac because-----

- (a) The frog was speechless
- (b) The nightingale had perched on it
- (c) The nightingale was sitting and singing melodiously in her sweet voice

3. Answers

- (a) The nightingale sang melodiously
- (b) Creatures of the bog who admired the nightingales
- (c) The nightingale was sitting and singing melodiously in her sweet voice

3. Answer in 30-40 words:

- (a) How did the frog benefit from the nightingale's song?
- (b) How did the frog train the nightingale in her singing?
- (c) What is your impression about the frog in the poem?

Answers:

a) The nightingale sang melodiously. All the creatures came to listen to her singing. The wily frog charged admission fee from all of them. The frog made a lot of money, as everyone admired the nightingale's song. He also sold his songs to the nightingale and made money. In this way he got benefitted from the nightingale's song.

b) The training began on a rainy day. He coaxed her to sing, although she was quite unused to singing in that weather. He told her to journey up and down

the scales of musical notes for six hours, without giving her any rest, till her voice became hoarse and trembling. He advised her to put on her scarf and sash as this would help her to sing in the weather. He also charged her a fee and told her to practice for a longer time each day till her voice, like his own, grew stronger.

c) The frog is an arrogant creature. All the creatures of the bog loath his song. Even prayers or bricks fail to silence him. He considers himself as the master of the bog. He is proud of his voice. He is jealous of the nightingale's popularity and is determined to remove her from the scene, and even succeeds. He is heartless.

Unsolved

Based on your understanding of the poem, choose the correct options for the following:

1. So the Nightingale once more,
Quite unused to such applause,
Sang till dawn without a pause.

a) The nightingale was not used to so much appreciation as

- i. She had had no audience before
- ii. She was a no body so far
- iii. This was her first performance
- iv. She was unaware of her musical talent

b) The creatures of the Bingle Bog requested her for another song as

- i. They were tired of listening to the unpleasant notes of the frog
- ii. They were all free and wanted to be entertained
- iii. Her musical notes were a welcome change
- iv. The frog was on a holiday

c) The nightingale's song made the frog think about

- i. Ways of insulting the nightingale
- ii. How ungrateful were the creatures of Bingle Bog
- iii. How to take advantage of the situation
- iv. Ways of teaching a lesson to the creatures of Bingle Bog

2. That a critic of such note Had discussed her art

and throat "I don't think the song is divine,
But- oh, well at least it's mine"

a) The 'critic's claim for his reputation was that he

- i. Was known for his singing.
- ii. Was owner of the tree.
- iii. Writes for the bog trumpet.
- iv. Reflects his arrogance.

b) The nightingale is apologetic about her song as

- i. The frog did not like it
- ii. It was copied from some where
- iii. The frog had pointed out the technical flaws
- iv. The nightingale lacked confidence

c) Her claim that 'at least it's mine" implies that

- i. The song was original
- ii. She was proud of it
- iii. She wanted to show off
- iv. She was confident

3. "But I can't sing in this weather"

"Come my dear-we'll sing together.

—So the frog and nightingale Journeyed up and
down the scale

a) The nightingale resists the frog's suggestion as

- i. It was very hot
- ii. It was raining
- iii. It was very humid
- iv. It was very cold

b) The way frog brushes away her excuses reflects his

- i. Arrogance
- ii. Hard task master
- iii. Servile
- iv. Clever

c) Journeyed up and down the scale' means

- i. Travel in Bingle Bog
- ii. Travelling up and down the tree
- iii. Singing on different notes
- iv. Popularity ratings

4. Day by day the nightingale Grew more
sorrowful and pale Night on Night her tired
song—

Till the birds and the beasts grew tired

a) The nightingale was growing sad and pale as

- i. The frog was always criticizing her
- ii. He was making her practice for long hours
- iii. She was afraid of displeasing her
- iv. She felt trapped

b) The birds and the beasts grew tired of

- i. Waiting for the nightingale
- ii. Paying the frog
- iii. Uninspired songs of the nightingale
- iv. Nightingale's repetitive performance

c) The effect of nightingale's substandard performance was

- i. The creatures started going to the frog's performance
- ii. The creatures did not appreciate her performance
- iii. The gross collection at the ticket office fell down
- iv. The nightingale stopped singing

5. Dumbstruck sat the gaping frog,
And the admiring bog
Stared towards the sumac, rapt,
And when she had ended, clapped

(a) _____ **She in the above lines
refers to the** _____ .

- (i) duck (ii) heron
- (iii) nightingale (iv) cuckoo

(b) The frog was dumbstruck because _____ .

- (i) he had never heard such a melodious voice
- (ii) he had never seen such a beautiful bird.
- (iii) a huge crowd had gathered to listen to his voice.
- (iv) he was being awarded for his beautiful voice.

(c) The whole bog clapped because _____ .

- (i) the frog had told them to do so.
- (ii) the whole bog was in the habit of clapping
- (iii) she sang really very well
- (iv) she was really very beautiful and smart

II) Short answer questions in about 30-40 words: (2 marks each)

Based on your reading of the poem answer the following questions briefly:

1. In spite of the frog's crass cacophony how could he emerge as the winner?
2. What chance incident brought some respite to the creatures of Bingle Bog?
3. How did the frog encash on the nightingale's popularity?
4. What characteristics helped the frog to overpower the Nightingale?
5. What piece of advice did the frog give to the nightingale to improvise her singing?
6. Why do you think the nightingale lost her appeal for the masses?
7. How did the celebrity status affect the nightingale?
8. What do you think the nightingale was afraid of?
9. In what sense was the nightingale a stupid creature?
10. How did the frog become the unrivalled king of the Bog?
11. "Every day the frog who'd sold her
Songs for silver, tried to scold her."
 - a) What actually made the frog scold her
 - b) What does 'silver' stand for.?
 - c) Contrast the nature of the frog and the nightingale in the light of the above lines.
12. And a solitary loon
Wept beneath the summer moon
Toads and teals and tiddlers captured
By her voice, cheered on, enraptured
Bravo! Too

Divine! Encore

- a) Who are the two characters in this story in verse?
- b) What is such a poem called?
- c) What two tall claims did the frog make?
- d) Which tree did the frog own and what did he do there?

13. This is a fairy tale,
And you're Mozart in disguise
Come to earth before my eyes.

- a) Who is the speaker of the above lines?
- b) Who is Mozart in disguise?
- c) What comparison does the speaker wish to draw here?

14. Did you— did you like my song?
Not too bad- but far too long.
The technique was fine, of course,
But it lacked a certain force.

- (a) What flaw did the frog find in the nightingale's song?
- (b) What impression do you form about the frog?
- (c) What is your opinion about the nightingale?

III Long answer questions in about 100-150 words:

1. Do you think nightingale was responsible for her own death? Substantiate your answer with examples from the poem
2. Taking the nightingale as a protegee was a ploy employed by the frog to save his position. Comment
3. The poem is an example of how professional rivalry can play with the lives of people. Elaborate.
4. Bring out the symbolism as used by the poet in the poem "The frog and the Nightingale"
5. Write the theme of the poem in 100 words. Use the given hints:
Simple poem- great moral— theme - talented but meek and servile- easily influenced—talent and person—soon destroyed. Nightingale symbol of meekness - has talent—frog— selfish- haughty- arrogant. Nightingale- no confidence- comes

under frogs influence

6. How did the arrival of the nightingale affect the frog?
7. How did the frog kill the nightingale without any blame on him?
8. The frog was boastful and insensitive. Give reasons for your answer.
9. Think upon the gender bias and suppression in the poem (for appreciation)

MIRROR

- SLYVIA PLATH

The poem 'Mirror' is an autobiographical account of mirror, highlighting its qualities. It reflects how a woman is disappointed and frustrated to see her gradually fading beauty and youth. It symbolizes the eternal truth of old age and loss of beauty in the course of life. The mirror is real and shining. It is unbiased. It shows what comes to it. It is a monologue of the protagonist Mirror who is free of any preconceptions and prejudice. It is not distorted by emotions of love or hatred as human beings do.

GIST OF THE POEM:

(Lines 1-4)

The mirror in the poem symbolizes the eternal truth of life. It is real and shining. It is silver in colour and appears perfectly smooth. It does not judge others with pre-conceived ideas like human beings. It does not have any pre-decided ideas and doesn't get affected by love or dislike. It has no feelings, emotions and preferences. It reflects exact what comes to it. It shows the person's accurate image from any kind of distortion. Since mirror is exact, truthful and objective, it may appear as unfeeling and cruel, though it is not so.

(Lines 5-9)

The mirror says that it is above any kind of personal feeling. It is like God, who sees the truth and views everything from all corners of the world. It is something mystic and divine, above the ordinary and the worldly. So, like God, the mirror looks at everything with equal eye. Most of the time, it keeps thinking about the opposite wall which is pink and has on it. It has

grown passionate about it and now it has begun to think of the wall as a part of its heart, here it means that it has become an integral part of its being, consciousness and existence. The wall flickers i.e. its view shakes and dims with changes in the shades of light. The mirror's view of the wall is interrupted by the people's faces and the darkness when they stand between the mirror and the wall.

(Line 10-13)

The mirror says that sometimes it is in the form of a lake, and when the woman looks into the mirror, the memories of life flash across her mind as both deeply (lake and mirror) reveal her true identity as a person. She attempts to see her flaws behind the darkness. The illusion created by the reflection of candles and the moon makes her appear beautiful and different from what she really is (old and ugly). But the mirror reflects her image truthfully without any bias.

(Lines 14-18)

The true (ugly and old) image as reflected by the mirror makes the woman 'frustrated and depressed. She cries and throws her hands in agitation and despair. She is ageing but it is difficult for her to accept the natural process of ageing. She comes and stands in front of the mirror every morning; it is her face that replaces the darkness. She misses her youth and beauty. She is no longer charming as she was in her youth. She feels insecure and insignificant. She feels, she has become very ugly. The loss of her youth and beauty makes her behave like a fish out of water or a terrible fish trapped in the pond of time.

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE TITLE The poem deals with the varied qualities of mirror - exactness, truthfulness and its relationship with the human beings (here the old woman) for years together. The whole poem revolves around the mirror. Hence, the title is quite apt and appropriate. The poem conveys strong message to humans- rather than living in the world of illusion, we need to change our thinking and attitude. We need to learn to face and accept the reality of life without indulging in too much of self-pity.

Question!: Read the extracts given below and answer the questions by choosing the correct option—

Now I am a lake. A woman bends over me,
Searching my reaches for what she really is,
Then she turns to those liars, the candles or the moon.
I see her back, and reflect it faithfully.
She rewards me with tears and an agitation of hands.

1) The mirror is a lake as

- (a) both have reflective surfaces.
- (b) both are without preconceptions.
- (c) the mirror is truthful.

(d) the lake is truthful.

2) Candles and moon are called liars because.....

- (a) of their flickering light
- (b) their light adds to the beauty of people
- (c) their dim light hides the blemishes of one's face
- (d) they reflect misleading images

3) Which figure of speech has been used in 'Now I am a lake'?

- (a) simile
- (b) irony
- (c) metaphor
- (d) alliteration

Question2. Answer the following questions in about 30-40 words.

A) How the wall has become a part of the mirror's heart? What separates them?

Ans: Wall has become a part of the mirror's heart because wall is always there and its reflection is on the mirror is also permanent. They are separated only either by the faces or the darkness.

B) How do you think the old woman rises day by day?

Ans: The old woman once was a young and beautiful lady. As each day passes that woman grows older and older.

C) Why does the mirror appear to be lake in the second stanza? What aspect of the mirror do you think is being referred to here?

Ans: In the second stanza mirror is compared to lake. It is highly suggestive. Lake cannot reflect exactly as a mirror. The lake also suggests the flow of time and age, hence the beauty being drowned in the lake.

UNSOLVED

Question 1: Read the extract given below and answer the questions by choosing

the correct option:

A) I am important to her. She comes and goes.
Each morning it is her face that replaces the darkness.
In me she has drowned a young girl, and
In me an old woman

Rises towards her day after day like a Terrible fish

1) In the above lines T refers to

- a) the mirror
- b) the poet
- c) the young lady
- d) the old lady

2) What replaces darkness each morning?

- a) the lake
- b) the front wall
- c) the woman's face
- d) the moon

3) An old woman is compared to

- a) burning candle
- b) terrible fish
- c) mirror
- d) truthful God

(B) I am silver and exact, I have no preconceptions. Whatever I see I swallow immediately just as it is unmisted by love or hatred. I am not cruel, only truthful _____

(a) "Silver and exact" in the extract mean

- (i) Made of unalloyed silver
- (ii) Very expensive and decorative
- (iii) Absolutely silver colored
- (iv) Clear and accurate

(b) "I have no preconcepts" means mirror

- (i) has no state and outdated ideas
- (ii) is very imperfect
- (iii) has no preconceived ideas
- (iv) reflects the image with a bias

(c) "Unmisted by love or dislike" refers

- (i) to mirror's love and dislike for the old lady
- (ii) to impartial reflection of the old lady
- (iii) to love and dislike towards the lady
- (iv) partial reflection of the old lady's image

(C) The eye of a little God, four-cornered. Most of the time I meditate on the opposite all.

It is pink, with speckles; I have looked at it long I think it is a part of my heart.

(a) The literal meaning of the expression 'four cornered' as used in the poem is:

- (i) in the eyes of God everybody is equal
- (ii) mirror is unbiased
- (iii) it is impartial
- (iv) the mirror is rectangular and it has four corners

(b) The expression: 'pink speckles' refers to

- (i) a lady with a healthy pink face and freckles
- (ii) spots made on the mirror with pink paint
- (iii) the mirror
- (iv) the opposite wall that is pink

(c) The expression: 'I meditate on the opposite wall' mean

- (i) the mirror keeps looking at the wall
- (ii) the woman keeps viewing herself in the mirror
- (iii) the mirror is in love with the wall
- (iv) the image of the wall is reflected in the mirror

(D) Searching my reaches for what she really is, than she turns to those liars, the candles

or the moon. I see her back, and reflect it faithfully.

(a) The lady is reaching for _____

- (i) her lost ring
- (ii) her lost youth and beauty

- (iii) her lost friend
- (iv) her strength and vitality

(b) What she really is ____

- (i) She is very beautiful and charming
- (ii) The truth that she is no more young and charming
- (iii) She has become extremely old and ugly
- (iv) She cannot hold her youth anymore.

(c) The speaker is different from those liars

- (i) It does not show false images
- (ii) It does not tell lies
- (iii) It is faithful
- (iv) It does not mislead the woman

(E) I have looked at it so long I think it is a part of my heart but it flickers faces and darkness separate as over and over.

(i) 'I' and 'it' 'in the above extract are ____

- (a) the young girls..... the lake
- (b) the mirror.....the wall
- (c) the woman.....the mirror
- (d) the wall.....the light

(ii) The expression: 'a part of my heart' means

- (a) It lives in her heart
- (b) It is a part of her existence
- (c) It is very dear to her
- (d) It is a part of her body.

(iii) The expression: 'But it flickers' means

- (a) The light flickers because of the wind
- (b) The image in the mirror flickers because of the light
- (c) The candle flame flickers because of the lives
- (d) The girl's image flickers in the lake water

(II) Short Answer Questions in about 30-40 Words (2 marks each)

Based on your reading of the poem, answer the following questions briefly. Each question carries 2 marks.

- (a) What is the significance of the expression 'unmisted' in the first stage of the poem?
- (b) How does the 'mirror' swallow? What is the poetic device used here?
- (c) The expression - 'I have no pre-concepts' has a deeper meaning in context to human beings. Explain.
- (d) What is the other name the mirror calls itself by? Why do you think this comparison has been made?
- (e) What are the different qualities of mirror highlighted by the poet?
- (f) How is the mirror typically different from most of the human beings?
- (g) Explain- The mirror like a four cornered god and a lake.
- (h) Why do you think the poet refers to the fish in the last line?
- (i) It is not the mirror but the woman herself who is responsible for the pain that she experiences, comment.
- (j) What is personification? Quote some examples of personification from the poem - 'Mirror'.
- k) What two distinctive features of mirror are pointed out by Sylvia Plath in the poem *Mirror*?
- l) Give two examples of personification used in the poem m) "*In me she has drowned a young girl*" Explain.
- n) Why has the mirror been described as 'unmisted'? What is the image it is trying to convey about the nature of the mirror?
- o) How does the mirror perform its functions dispassionately? p) What is the woman searching for in the depth of the lake?

III) Long Answer Question in about 100-150 words:

- Q1. Give the characteristics of the mirror as conceived by Sylvia Plath in her poem "Mirror".
- Q2. Why does the poetess refer to the woman as a "terrible fish" in the poem 'Mirror'?
- Q3. What kind of relationship does the woman share with the mirror?

Q4. The woman in the poem searches for something in the depth of the mirror.
What is it?

Q5. Why has been the mirror called 'a four-cornered God' - What are its qualities?

NOT MARBLE, NOR THE GILDED MONUMENTS(SONNET 55)

-William Shakespeare

Not marble, nor the gilded monuments / Of princes, shall outlive this powerful
rhyme;

Statues and monuments will not last as long as this poem;

But you shall shine more bright in these contents / Than unswept stone, besmear'd
with sluttish time.

*And you will last longer, immortalized in this poem, than the stone statues and
monuments, which will fade and become dusty over time.*

When wasteful war shall statues overturn, / And broils root out the work of
masonry,

War and other disturbances will destroy statues and monuments,

Nor Mars his sword, nor war's quick fire shall burn / The living record of
your
memory.

*But poetry, which memorializes you, cannot be destroyed by these means. Gainst
death, and all oblivious enmity / Shall you pace forth; your praise shall still find
room*

You shall outlast death and all other forces that seek to destroy things

Even in the eyes of all posterity / That wear this world out to the ending
doom.

Even for future generations.

So, till the judgment that yourself arise, / You live in this, and dwell in lovers' eyes.

So you will live through this poem until judgment day.

SUMMARY

In this sonnet, the speaker of the poem claims that his powerful rhyme will outlast marble and gilded monuments, keeping the youth's memory alive until the Judgement Day. As in many of Shakespeare's sonnets, the passage of time is a major theme. Here Time is portrayed predominantly as a negative force connected with death and decay. Line 3, for example, personifies time as a sluttish character, who besmears human attempts to achieve immortality by building stone monuments. The poem reflects a common view during the Elizabethan age that the

entire world was in a process of gradual decay and decline as humanity moved through time toward the Last Judgement, the Judeo-Christian idea of apocalypse and an end of time.

This poem is predominantly concerned with the human desire to be remembered and immortalized in an attempt to overcome death. The poem suggests a strong awareness of the inevitability of death; images of the aging effects of time and the destructive results of wasteful war are emphasized. Worse than death, the sonnet suggests, is the force that conspire to ensure that an individual is forgotten, such as war's quick fire and the all oblivious enmity of other people. The anxiety running throughout the poem is not merely due to a fear of death, but the idea that all traces of the self might be completely erased from the earth. The poem rejects traditional human attempts at preserving the memory of an individual through the building of monuments, statues, or buildings as doomed to either decay through the effects of time or to ruin through the violence of war. The sonnet itself (this powerful rhyme), however, is upheld as a vehicle of immortality that will not be destroyed. You live in this, declares the poet in the last line of the sonnet, suggesting that the youth to which the poem is addressed can somehow be preserved through the poem, which is immune to physical destruction. The last line of the poem also connects love with eternity and immortality by asserting that despite death, the youth will always dwell in lover's eyes. This phrase suggests that while the body and self are lost and forgotten, love is eternal; the youth will somehow live in the eyes of all lovers who might read the poem throughout time. While this sonnet takes a defiant stand against oblivion, the speaker's attitude towards death can be seen as ultimately ambiguous. L. C. Knights in his 1934 essay on Shakespeare's Sonnets commented: In all the sonnets [which promise some form of immortality], it is the contemplation of change, not the boasting and defiance, that produces the finest poetry; they draw their value entirely from the evocation of that which is said to be defied or triumphed over.

What is a SONNET?

The sonnet is a lyric poem of fourteen lines.

The term "*sonnet*" derives its meaning from the word *sonet* and the Italian word *sonetto*, both meaning "little song" and "little sound".

Solved Questions:

A. 'Gainst death and all-oblivious enmity

Shall you pace forth; your praise shall still find room

Even in the eyes of all posterity

d)Everyone

That wear this world out to the ending doom.

1. What does the poet suggest here?

- a) To become a hero in the eyes of the future generation
- b) To forget death
- c) To forget all enmity
- d) To wait till doomsday

2. Posterity will come to know about the poet's friends—

- (a) .By his recorded or written memory of life
- b) .By the poet's powerful rhyme
- c) By this sonnet only
- d) By the monuments gilded by him

3. "Pace forth" means

- a) Walk ahead
- b) Come ahead
- c) Stride forwards
- d) To be in race

A. Answers

1 (c) 2 (a)3 (c)

B. So, till the judgment that yourself arise, you live in this, and dwell in lovers' eyes

I. The poet is addressing

- a) His father
- b) The person he loves
- c) Powerful rulers

2. One should wait till -----

- a) One's death
- b) One's biography is written

I) Multiple Choice Questions:

- c) One creates an example for posterity
- d) The day of the last judgment

3. These lines convey the message—

- a) One must act in order to be loved by all
- b) One gets justice in the doomsday
- c) Everything comes to an end
- d) Poetry immortalizes friend

B. Answers

1. (b)2.(d)3(d)

II) Answer in 30-40 words:

a) How according to the poet, will his beloved outlive monument and time?

According to the poet, his beloved, is captured in this sonnet and therefore shall outlive the marble and gilded monuments built by the princes, because the monuments shall get spoiled by time.

b) How does the poet immortalize his beloved?

The poet immortalizes his beloved by stating that his beloved shall live forever in this sonnet and in the eyes of posterity. Also she will wear out this world till the judgment day and outlive it.

c) What is the moral of the poem?

The moral of the poem is that literary art is not affected by time, though marble and gilded monuments are. They are ravaged by time but it will have no effect on his beloved who is a living record in this sonnet. Time is shown as a great leveler and destroyer here.

UNSOLVED:

Not marble, nor the gilded monuments Of
princes, shall outlive this powerful rhyme;
But you shall shine more bright in these contents Than

d)Everyone

upswept stone, besmeared with sluttish time.

1. The rich and powerful got ornate monuments made in order to —

- a) show off their wealth
- b) show their position
- c) show their artistic talent
- d) be remembered till posterity

2. The poet addresses his sonnet to

- i) time b) war c) the person he loves d) powerful rulers

3. The rhyme scheme of this stanza is —

- i) aabb ii) abab iii) abba iv) abbb

II Answer the following in 30-40 words each:

1. What is the central idea of the poem?
2. How does the poet glorify the work of art such as poetry?
3. What are the things that last for centuries?
4. What does the poet think of time?
5. What efforts have been made to thwart the ravages of time and what has been the result?
6. Why do you think the rich and powerful people get monuments and statue erected in their memory?
7. Describe how the monuments and statues brave the ravages of time. Why does the poet refer to Time as being sluttish?
8. The poet says that neither forces of nature nor wars can destroy his poetry. In fact, even godly powers of Mars will not have a devastating effect on his rhyme. What quality of the poet is revealed through these lines?
9. What comparison does Shakespeare draw between poetry and monuments?
- 10) How have the effects of war been described in this sonnet?
- 11) How does Shakespeare hope his dear friend to enjoy immortality?
- 12) What according to Shakespeare is more enduring- his poetry or the ornate gilded monuments? How?
13. How according to Shakespeare, can poetry withstand the devastating

effect of hostile forces of nature or deadly engines of war?

III) Long Answer Questions:

1. What is the theme of the poem?
2. Which of two is more powerful-poetry or wars? Why?
3. Explain briefly the reference of time in the poem 'Not Marble, Nor the Gilded monuments'?
4. How does the poet call his beloved, in the second quatrain?
5. Briefly comment on the poetic devices used in the poem, 'Not marble, nor the gilded monuments', by William Shakespeare.

DRAMA THE DEAR DEPARTED

-STANLEY HOUGHTON

In this ironical play, the author satirizes the degradation of moral values in the British middle class. It throws light on the increasing trend in the society of leaving elderly generation abandoned and neglected. The story also supports the idea that the elderly generation has the right to live merrily according to their own decisions.

In this play, the daughters Mrs. Amelia Slater and Mrs. Elizabeth Jordan want to get rid of their father, Mr. Abbel Merryweather, but both wish to get their father's belongings. When their father comes to know the fact, he reveals his new will and master plan. According to new will, all of his belongings will be given to the daughter with whom he would be residing at the time of his death.

Now both the daughters wish that he should live with them. Father realises that both of them want his belongings and not him. Thus, he decides to marry Mrs. John Shorrocks who loves and cares for him. So, the dear are united instead of departing.

Points to remember:

1. Mrs. Slater discovers that grandfather is dead.
2. Mrs. Slaters instructs Victoria to put her white frock with a black sash on. Henry wears the new slippers of grandfather's
3. The Slaters fetch the bureau and the clock from upstairs.
4. The Jordans arrive and learn the details of grandfather's demise from the Slaters.
5. The family sits down to have tea.

6. They discuss the obituary announcement in the papers and the insurance premium payment.
7. Victoria is asked to fetch the bunch of keys to bureau to look for the insurance receipt.
8. Grandfather comes down and is surprised to find the Jordans.
9. Grandfather comes to know how his daughters were in a hurry to divide his things between them.
10. Grandfather announces his intention to change his will and to marry Mrs. JohnShorrocks.

SOLVED QUESTIONS

Q-I Answer the following questions in about 30-40 words.

a) How would you describe Mrs. Amelia Slater?

Ans: Mrs. Amelia Slater is a vigorous, plump, red faced, vulgar woman who can go to any extent in her own way. She is not ready to share her father's bureau and the clock with her sister and so takes them in her possession before she arrives. She dominates her family members. Throughout the play, she is impolite and insensitive.

b) What did Victoria consider as 'pinching'? What does this show about her personality?

Ans: The Slaters are moving away grandpa's bureau stealthily before the arrival of the Jordans. They want to take it into their possession without revealing the truth to the Jordans. So Victoria considers it as 'pinching'. It shows that she is a precocious girl and has the ability to distinguish between the good and the bad.

c) "That is professional etiquette". Who says these words and what kind of professional etiquette is being referred to here?

Ans: Mrs. Slater says these words to Elizabeth. She was referring to the grandfather's doctor, who was out when the grandfather was discovered 'dead'. She further informs her that she did not go to any other doctor, because according to the professional etiquette, Dr. Pringle should attend to grandpa when he's dead, as he was the one who attended him when he was alive.

UNSOLVED

B) "Are we pinching it before Aunt Elizabeth comes?"

What does 'it' refer to here?

1. How does Vicky conclude that her parents 'are pinching it'?
2. Mention the two reasons that Mrs. Slater gives for her action.

III Short answer type questions:

1. How does Mrs. Slater plan to outshine the Jordans? What does it reveal about her character?
2. Why does Mrs. Slater decide to shift the bureau from grandfather's room before the arrival of the Jordans? How does Henry react to the suggestion?
- 3) Ben appreciates grandfather saying 'it's a good thing he did.' Later he calls him a 'drunken old beggar'. Why does he change his opinion about grandfather?
- 4) What change does grandfather make in his new will? What effect does it have on his daughters?
- 5) What are the three things that grandfather plans to do on the next Monday?
- 6) What does the grandfather thank Mrs. Slater for? Why?
- 7) What according to Mrs. Jordan is 'a fatal mistake'? What argument does she offer to support her view? How do others react to it?
- 8) Why does Mrs. Slater rebuke her daughter, Victoria?
- 9) Which qualities of her sister Elizabeth Jordan are hinted at by Mrs. Slater? Are these unique to her?
- 10) How does the bureau episode add to the merits of the play as a comedy?
- 11) Why do the Slaters & Jordans fail to agree on the form and exact words of the Obituary Notice for the newspapers?
- 12) What does the shifting of the bureau downstairs reveal about the difference between the attitude of the elders and that of Vicky?
- 13) What, do you think, is the initial error committed by the Slaters? How does it recoil on them?
- 14) How do the Slaters and Jordans react to the grandfather's decision to get married? What trait of their character is revealed?
- 15) How does Mrs. Slater ready herself and Victoria for the arrival of her sister,

Elizabeth and Ben, her husband?

16) What does Mrs. Slater 'steal' of her father's things before Mrs. and Mr. Jordan arrive? How does Henry react to it?

17) What do the Slaters and Jordans discuss immediately after arrival for them mourning at the Slaters? What does it show of their character?

18) What of their father do Mrs. Slater and Mrs. Jordan talk about after taking tea?

19) How do all react when they see father alive and not dead as they had thought? What does father say about himself?

20) How do both the sisters quarrel after father asks Mrs. Slater why had his bureau been shifted?

21) What does father promise to do after Mrs. Slater asks him not to be hard on her?

22) How do Mrs. Slater and Mrs. Jordan behave about keeping father with them?

23) How does Abel frustrate the designs of both of the sisters?

24) What according to Mrs. Jordan is a fatal mistake? What argument does she offer to support her view? How do others react to it?

25) How does the bureau episode add to the merits of the play as a comedy?

26) How do the Slaters and Jordans react to the grandfather's decision to

married? What trait of their character is revealed?

IV) Long Answer type questions:

a) Write the character sketch of Mrs. Slater highlighting the following points: Her greed, her overpowering nature, straight talk, her impoliteness and lack of the sense of feelings.

b) In the play the two daughters do not seem to be concerned at their father's death. Do you think it is proper? Why?

c) How are the two sisters exposed in the play, *The Dear Departed*?

d) Justify the title of the play, *The Dear Departed*.

e) Discuss the comic elements in the play.

f) What are ironical elements that make the play a comedy?

g) Compare and contrast Henry's character with that of his wife. Support your answer with evidence from the play.

h) What is your impression about Abel as portrayed in the play?

i) How is the play a kind of bitter commentary on the hollowness of

familial love and relations?

j) Compare and contrast the character of Mrs. Slater and Mrs. Jordan, k) How does the spat between his daughters lead to grandfather discovering the truth?

l) "Grandfather is not entirely right in moving away from his daughters." Discuss. Give reason in support of your answer.

Syllabus for TERM II (SA II)

FICTION A SHADY PLOT

-Elsie Brown

This humorous ghost story revolves around the three characters namely John Hallock, his wife Lavinia and the Ghost Helena. Lavinia suspects that her husband maintains a secret relationship with a girl and she says this with surety as she has seen him talking with her alone. She decides to break her relationship with him. Luckily she comes to know from the ghost itself that it is helping him write a ghost story. Now they reconcile with each other.

Jenkins, a magazine publisher asks the writer to give some story on super natural things. The writer accepts. The writer has no specialization in the ghost story writing. As he sits for writing about ghostly things issues like house hold matters crop up in his mind. Then he hears a voice and starts his conversation with a she-ghost as it were. The ghost says that she has come on his request through Ouija board to help him write a story. The ghost asks him to avoid calling through Ouija board. His wife calls him then and the ghost disappears and warns him about their strike.

His wife asks him why he is sitting in the dark. She brings an Ouija board to know about historical events to help him write a story. He does not like the idea and asks her to return the board aback and get something else in its replacement. His wife stares at him. He tries to write a story, but cannot do it. Then next Saturday he writes his story. When he comes back, his mind is churning and his house is brightly lighted. The room is filled with middle- aged women belonging to his wife's book club. They are sitting with Ouija boards. He is scared that his wife may notice the ghost. When his wife asks him to join the Ouija board, he refuses. Somehow his wife comes to know from the Ouija board and the board operator namely Laura that John has betrayed his wife by having relationship with a girl called Helen. She decides to break the relationship, but luckily she comes to know from John that Helen is helping him to write a ghost story.

Solved:

I) Short Answer Question:

a) **Why did John wish he were dead?**

Ans. The ladies gathered at his house had troubled him. The chaos created due to the ladies' conversation and the Ouija board disturbed him a lot. Moreover his wife doubted that he had an affair with Helen and threatened him that she would divorce him.

II) Long Question Answer:

Describe A Shady Plot as a ghost story, describing the supernatural and the atmosphere around which it revolves.

Ans. Helen, an owl-eyed and unattractive ghost plays a vital role in the story. She appears in parts, first her arm, then a leg, a sleeve and at last, a complete woman stood there. It does not create fear, on the other hand, the ghost appears to be a real human being, and helps the couple to reunite at the end, instead of creating trouble in their lives, as ghosts are supposed to do. Ouija boards are mentioned which are intended to communicate with the spirits of the dead. Ouija boards help to get answers to their questions. This story is different from other ghost stories as it does not send a chill down the spine. Here the ghost does not threaten, but creates inspiration and the best plot for writing a ghost story.

Questions

A) Answer the following in 60 words:

1. Why does the ghost appear before the writer?
2. How does the writer react when ghost appear before him?
3. Why does the ghost want the writer to stop his guests from using Ouija Board?
4. Why do Helen and other ghosts organize the writer's inspiration bureau?
5. What happened when Hallock sat down his desk and waited for getting ideas for his ghost story?
6. How did the narrator react to the appearance of the ghost?
7. How was this ghost different form the ghosts the narrator used to write about in his stories?
8. What did the ghost tell about herself which didn't sound that she was a ghost?
9. What did the ghost tell the narrator of her present assignment and

what for did she request him?

10. What made Lavinia buy Ouija board? How did the narrator react to her doing so? What for did Lavinia buy the Ouija board for the narrator? How could he get help from it?

11. "My wife is never so pretty as when she is doing something she knows I disapprove of" What did she do which he disapproved of?

12. What happened when Laura Hinkle worked on the Ouija board?

13. How did the Ouija board make things easier to understand after Miss Hinkle asked it to explain itself more fully?

14. When did Helen, the ghost appear before the narrator?

15. "It is all your fault. She glared at me"

.What was the narrator's fault as per the ghost? What for did the narrator blame the ghost?

14. Describe how Lavinia faced Helen, the ghost?

15. Explain the appropriateness of the title "A Shady Plot"

16. How does the narrator rate himself as a ghost story writer?

17. Why does the ghost appear before the writer?

18. How does the writer react when ghost appears before him?

19. Why does the ghost want the writer to stop his guests from using Ouija Board?

20. Why do Helen and other ghosts organize the writer's inspiration

bureau? **Long answer type**

1..Describe the character of John Hallock.

2. A Shady Plot is a humorous ghost story Do you agree with this Justify your view.

3. Justify the title of the lesson "A Shady Plot"

4. There are no scenes of horror or thrill but still the story is interesting. What are the elements that make the story interesting?

5. Describe the first meeting between the narrator and the ghost of Helen. How does she materialize and how does the narrator react to it?

6. Describe the meeting of the members of the Lavinia's Book Club at her house with Ouija boards.

7. Describe the second meeting of the ghost of Helen with the

narrator when Lavinia happens to be there.

8. Imagine the ghost of Helen writes a diary page about how it appears to help the narrator and what happens. Write the diary page on its behalf.

9. Imagine the narrator writes a letter describing how he gets the idea of a ghost story. Write that letter on his behalf.

PATOL BABU, FILM STAR -Satyajit Ray

Personal Satisfaction vs. Financial Rewards is the theme in the chapter, Patol Babu, Film Star.

Summary: Personal satisfaction is more important than financial rewards, as depicted in Satyajit Ray's short story, Patol Babu, Film Star. The main character Patol Babu realized that personal satisfaction could not be measured and weighed by money, and so he acted in the film out of passion. He felt towards the job more than the money he would make from the job.

In Patol Babu, Film Star, Satyajit Ray has highlighted the idea that personal satisfaction is more important than financial rewards. According to him, one does a job because he is interested in it rather than getting reward from it.

In the story Patol Babu was given only a minor role in the film, as a pedestrian who was only needed to collide into the main actor Chanchal Kumar and uttered a monosyllable sound "oh." Nevertheless, his passion for the job drove him to work hard to give the best performance by rehearsing himself. Eventually, he had done a terrific job and received praise from Chanchal Kumar-"You timed it so well that I nearly passed out", and Barren Mullick praised him saying, "Jolly good! Why, you're quite an actor!" He felt very pleased with his performance and "a total satisfaction swept over him." He thought that it did not matter whether he received any payment or not. "What were twenty rupees when measured against the intense satisfaction of a small job done with perfection and dedication?" Thus, he did not wait to collect his payment.

Patol Babu realized that personal satisfaction could not be measured and weighed by money. To him, personal satisfaction is more crucial than material rewards. Ever since the beginning, Patol Babu did not act in the film because of the money merely. In contrast, it was because of his passion towards the job that drove him to act in the film. "I'll be paid, of course, but that's not the main thing." He also knew that nobody would appreciate his performance as he is only a minor actor in the film. Even though Barren Mullick praised him, he would soon forget about it. "But all his labour and

imagination he had put into this one shot--were these people able to appreciate that?" However, Patol Babu thought that his own satisfaction was more salient. He had proven his ability and talent in acting and these worked as a sort of motivation to him.

In the nutshell, personal satisfaction was more important than financial rewards and this idea work as one of the main issues in the story. Solved questions:

1) What did Nishikandto Ghosh tell Patol Babu one morning? Why?

One morning Nishikandto Ghosh , patol babu's neighbour told him that his youngest brother in law was looking for an actor for film scene. The person was to be around fifty, short, and bald headed. Since patol babu had acted earlier and was in need of work' he recommended him.

2. Describe the past of Patol Babu as an actor.?

Patol babu had a real passion at one time. He was always in demand in Jatras, in amateur theatricals, in plays put up by the club in his neighbourhood. There was a time when people bought tickets especially to see him.

3. What did Patol Babu do for a living after having been retrenched?

Patol Babu opened a variety store. But he had to wind it up after five years. Then he had a job in Bengali firm but had to give it up due to high handedness of the boss. Then he remained an insurance salesman for ten years. Of late he has been with a firm dealing with scrap iron.

4. How did Patol Babu disclose his pleasure for the film role before his wife?

Patol babu disclosed his pleasure for the film role before his wife in talking about his past. He told her that his first role on the stage had been of a dead soldier. It was appreciated by all. The chairman of the municipality then gave him a silver medal. God willing he would rise to fame again after this role.

1) Answer the following questions in a sentence or two each:

1. How did Sosanko convince Patol Babu about the dialogue given to him?
2. Describe the scene Patol has to play in the film.
3. Which incidents prove that Patol was a man of imagination?
4. How did Patol react to the lines given to him?
5. Why did he leave the shooting spot without taking the money?
6. How does he rate the people in the filmdom?
7. What did Nishikandto Ghosh tell Patol Babu one morning? Why?

8. Describe the past of Patol Babu as an actor.
9. What did Patol Babu do for a living after having been retrenched?
10. How did Patol Babu disclose his pleasure for the film role before his wife?
11. What did Patol Babu think of Chanchal Kumar after his shoot?
12. What did Jyoti tell Patol Babu about his role before it was to be shot?
13. What did Patol Babu do with the paper on which his dialogue was written?
14. What did he hear standing near the paan shop and how he reacted to it?
15. What had Patol Babu's mentor Gogon Pakrashi told him about the actor as an artist?
16. How was Patol Babu emboldened by his mentor Gogon Pakrashi's advice?
17. What did Patol Babu suggest Baren Mullick to add authenticity to his role when his turn for shoot came? What happened thereafter?
18. What did Patol Babu feel after the shoot? Why did he go without taking any money?

II) Long answer type questions:

1. Why did Nishikanto Gosh call on Patol Babu one morning? How did Patol Babu react after hearing him? What kind of a stage actor had Patol Babu been earlier?
2. What happened when Patol Babu went to Faraday House for shooting after he had met Naresh Dutt? How did he feel after having been given his one-worded dialogue?
3. How did Patol Babu give an emotional touch to his dialogue of Oh!?
4. Imagine Patol Babu writes a diary page about important events. He writes a diary page describing this event. Write a diary page on his behalf about this event in 50 words.

VIRTUALLY TRUE

-PAUL STEWART

We generally hear about different views regarding virtual computer games. In this story we find personalities teleporting themselves to other bodies. Sebastian Shultz meets with a severe motor way accident. His body is badly injured. He becomes unconscious on the spot. He is admitted to general hospital. Doctors declare his state as critical yet stable. The doctors too are not hopeful. He awakes with the memory of a dangerous dream as he is caught in a dragons trap. It imprisons him but he requests a boy called Michael who visits there to rescue him. He tries but fails for the first time. Then Shultz suggests to him jail break plan but he cannot be rescued this time. Then he requests him

third and last time to enter the war zone. There are jeeps, tanks, guns, helicopters etc. They escape from the jail and run across a no man's island. He sees a jeep. They ride in it towards the helicopter. He breaks the car, but it starts spinning like a top. Michael jumps into the helicopter, but he cannot. A chasing tank hits their jeep, which throws him up in the air near the helicopter. Then Michael pulls him in the helicopter. Later on, he comes to know that actually he is teleported in a game of Michael and now how he reaches there, is also equally interesting. Shultz's memory is stored in his laptop at the time of the accident. His games are stolen at the time of accident. The games are sold in a computer fair. And Michael has bought the game. Thus he enters Michael's game. When Michael enters the virtual world, Schulz requests him to save him. Michael is a gentle boy so he saves Schultz. Schultz thanked him because due to his help, he has awoken from coma.

Points to remember:

1. Sebastian Shultz was badly injured in a motor way accident and went into a coma.
2. Sebastian's memory was saved in the computer, when he banged his head on it during the accident.
3. The games were stolen from Shultz's house.
4. Michael bought the latest psycho - driven games from the computer fair.
5. Sebastian Shultz was the second sheriff in the dragon's quest. When Michael played the game he entered Sebastian's memory.
6. Sebastian failed to save the boy who fell through the air.
7. Sebastian requested Michael to try jail-break.
8. Sebastian thought the helicopter was the right idea and they should go into the war-zone.
9. Michael pulled Sebastian into the helicopter and the screen flashed the score of 40,000,000.
10. Sebastian thanked Michael for saving his life and asked him to keep the games.

Short answer type questions:

1. What had happened to Sebastian Shultz? How was he at present?
2. How did the narrator come to know about Sebastian Shultz's condition?
3. When did the first video game Wild West become complicated?

Who was the second sheriff? How does the narrator describe him?

4. When did the first video game come to an end and with what?

5. What was the second video game Dragon quest about?

6. What did Sebastian Shultz suggest to Michael, the narrator to save him? 7. What happened when the narrator swiped a skeleton's e-card?

8. What plan did Sebastian Shultz have for escaping from prison cell? How did it fail?

9. The narrator tried the three video games to rescue Sebastian Shultz, but could not. What did he do and why?

10. How did the narrator rescue Sebastian Shultz after entering the Warzone?

11. How did the narrator happen to crack the video game?

II) Long answer type questions:

1. How did the narrator come to know about Sebastian Shultz? What had happened to him? How did the narrator happen to initiate rescuing him?

2. Describe what Michael finds in the video game "Wildwest" when he plays it? Who was the second sheriff?

3. What did Michael do after he got a message "I'm struck. Please help to retrieve me. try Dragonquest"? Describe how Sebastian Shultz could not be rescued.

4. How did the narrator finally rescue Sebastian Shultz starting from the second Video Game, "Dragonquest"?

Short answer type questions

1. What had happened to Sebastian Shultz? How was he at present?

Ans. Sebastian had been badly injured in a motorway accident. His condition was critical but stable. Despite doctor's hope he didn't regain consciousness. He was in a coma.

2. How did the narrator come to know about Sebastian Shultz's condition? Ans. The narrator came to know about Sebastian from a newspaper article. He happened to see that a big woman was reading it. It was titled Miracle Recovery and had the name of Sebastian Shultz in it. It was about the accident and consequential coma.

3. When did the first video game come to an end and with what?

Ans. The narrator and the second sheriff went ahead on horseback being chased

by the horsemen. At that moment the sound of a gunshot echoed round the air. The second sheriff groaned and slumped back against him. At this the game was over.

Long answer type questions

I. How did the narrator come to know about Sebastian Shultz ?

The narrator came to know about Sebastian from a newspaper article. He happened to see that a big woman was reading it. It was titled Miracle Recovery and had the name of Sebastian Shultz in it. Six weeks back Sebastian had been badly injured in a motorway accident. His condition was critical but stable .Despite doctor's hope he didn't regain consciousness. He was in a coma.

The narrator had known him recently and recollected the events connected with him. He and his father had bought some video games at the computer fair on reaching home the narrator launched himself into the first of the games called Wild west while playing it he happened to meet Sebastian Shultz in the form of second sheriff

He continued playing the game. Both he and Sebastian were escaping but the gun shot hit Sebastian and he slumped against him. The screen showed the game over with the narrator winning 21095 scores .But he got a message with a request from Sebastian to retrieve him by trying Dragon Quest,.

POETRY

OZYMANDIAS

-P B Shelley

The speaker describes a meeting with someone who has travelled to a place where ancient civilizations once existed. We know from the title that he's talking about Egypt. The traveller told the speaker a story about an old, fragmented statue in the middle of the desert. The statue is broken apart, but you can still make out the face of a person. The face looks stern and powerful, like a ruler. The sculptor did a good job at expressing the ruler's personality. The ruler was a wicked guy, but he took care of his people. On the pedestal near the face, the traveller reads an inscription in which the ruler Ozymandias tells anyone who might happen to pass by, basically, "Look around and see how awesome I am!" But there is no other evidence of his awesomeness in the vicinity of his giant, broken statue. There is just a lot of sand, as far as the eye can see. The traveller ends his story.

The first-person poetic persona states that he met a traveller who had been to "an antique land." The traveller told him that he had seen a vast, but ruined statue, where only the legs remained standing. The face was sunk in the sand, frowning and sneering. The sculptor interpreted his subject well. There also was a pedestal at the statue, where the traveller read that the statue was of "Ozymandias, King of Kings." Although the pedestal told "mighty" onlookers that they should look out at the King's works and despair at his greatness, the whole area was just covered with flat sand. All that is left is the wrecked statue.

Analysis:

Here we have a speaker learning from a traveller about a giant, ruined statue that lay broken and eroded in the desert. The title of the poem informs the reader that the subject is the 13th-century B.C. Egyptian King Ramses II, whom the Greeks called "Ozymandias." The traveller describes the great work of the sculptor, who was able to capture the king's "passions" and give meaningful expression to the stone, an otherwise "lifeless thing." The "mocking hand" in line 8 is that of the sculptor, who had the artistic ability to "mock" (that is, both imitate and deride) the passions of the king. The "heart" is first of all the king's, which "fed" the sculptor's passions, and in turn the sculptor's, sympathetically recapturing the king's passions in the stone.

The final five lines mock the inscription hammered into the pedestal of the statue. The original inscription read "I am Ozymandias, King of Kings; if anyone wishes to know what I am and where I lie, let him surpass me in some of my exploits." The idea was that he was too powerful for even the common king to relate to him; even a mighty king should despair at matching his power. That principle may well remain valid, but it is undercut by the plain fact that even an empire is a human creation that will one day pass away. The statue and surrounding desert constitute a metaphor for invented power in the face of natural power. By Shelley's time, nothing remains but a shattered bust, eroded "visage," and "trunkless legs" surrounded with "nothing" but "level sands" that "stretch far away." Shelley thus points out human mortality and the fate of artificial things.

The lesson is important in Europe: France's hegemony has ended, and England's will end sooner or later. Everything about the king's "exploits" is now gone, and all that remains of the dominating civilization are shattered "stones" alone in the desert. Note the use of alliteration to emphasize the point: "boundless and

bare"; "lone and level."

It is important to keep in mind the point of view of "Ozymandias." The perspective on the statue is coming from an unknown traveller who is telling the speaker about the scene. This helps to create a sense of mystery of history and legend: we are getting the story from a poet who heard it from a traveller who might or might not have actually seen the statue. The statue itself is an expression of the sculptor, who might or might not have truly captured the passions of the king. Our best access to the king himself is not the statue, not anything physical, but the king's own words.

Poetry might last forever unlike other human creations. Yet, communicating words present a different set of problems. Finally, we cannot miss the general comment on human vanity in the poem. It is not just the "mighty" who desire to withstand time; it is common for people to seek immortality and to resist death and decay. Furthermore, the sculptor himself gets attention and praise that used to be deserved by the king, for all that Ozymandias achieved has now "decayed" into almost nothing, while the sculpture has lasted long enough to make it into poetry. In a way, the artist has become more powerful than the king. The only things that "survive" are the artist's records of the king's passion, carved into the stone.

Perhaps Shelley chose the medium of poetry in order to create something more powerful and lasting than what politics could achieve, all the while

understanding that words too will eventually pass away. Unlike many of his poems, "Ozymandias" does not end on a note of hope. There is no extra stanza or concluding couplet to honor the fleeting joys of knowledge or to hope in human progress. Instead, the traveller has nothing more to say, and the persona draws no conclusions of his own.

Solved:

Answer the following questions by picking the correct options:

a) Ozymandias got his huge statue erected

- i) to be seen by the posterity for being mighty and powerful.
- ii) he had great love for art.
- iii) people will remember him for his nobility.
- iv) he wanted to convey the message that life is momentary.

b) The poem highlights the nature of Ozymandias. That he was

- i) cruel
- ii) humble
- iii) arrogant
- iv) aggressive

c) The sculptor who built the statue of Ozymandias could better understand his

- i) feelings
- ii) words
- iii) expression
- iv) ambition

The backdrop of the poem is

- i) palace ii) mountain iii) desert iv) wilderness

Answers: a) i

- b) iv
- c) i
- d) iii

II) Short Answer Questions:

What was written on the pedestal of the statue? What does it indicate?

Ans. On the pedestal, it was written 'My name is Ozymandias, king of kings'. The inscription is a brief description of the man whose statue it was. The man was drunk with power and strength. He was also boastful of his achievements and even challenged the mighty and powerful people of the world to look upon his achievements. They would be lost in despair to see his achievements in comparison to theirs.

What message does the poet want to convey?

Ans. The poet conveys a definite message through this poem to humanity that one day or the other, one's power and glory is ravaged by time. Even the mighty and the powerful cannot escape. Time does not make any

discrimination between a king and beggar.

Unsolved:

Read the extract and answer the questions that follow:

*And wrinkled lip, and sneer of cold command,
Tell that its sculptor well those passions read Which
yet survive, stamped on these lifeless things,
The hand that mocked them and the heart that fed;*

a) Wrinkled lip and sneer of cold command depict:

- i) That Ozymandias was a haughty person
- ii) that he was Lord of himself
- iii) that the sculptor had well read the feelings on the face of the man whose statue he was to make.
- iv) The sculptor was quite professional.

b) Those passions are still noticeable

- i) carved on the lifeless stone
- ii) lying on the sand
- iii) stamped on the face of the statue of the stone
- iv) on the broken pieces of the statue.

c) Whose hands mocked them?

- i) The hands of Ozymandias
- ii) The hands of the sculptor
- iii) The hands lying broken
- iv) The hands of the trunkless legs

II) Answer the following in about 40 words:

- a) Describe the statue as seen by the traveller.

- b) What was the contrasting element near the statue and what does it convey to humanity?
- c) Whose greatness is glorified? Was it the appearance of the king on the statue or the sculptor who made the statue or the force of nature? Justify your answer.
- d) What did the traveller tell the narrator about what he saw in the ancient land?
- e) What kind of expression did the human face have? What did it tell of the sculptor and the human being after whom he had carved that statue?
- f) What else remained there beside the broken statue? What does it signify?
- g) What is the message given indirectly in the poem?

III) Long answer type questions:

- a) The futility of human beings is exposed in this poem. Discuss
- b) What is the central idea of the poem?
- c) The poem portrays the short living political power as against the force of time and nature. Discuss
- d) What does the traveller tell the narrator of what he saw in a desert?

**THE RIME OF THE ANCIENT MARINER -
S.T.COLERIDGE**

The poem is an extract taken from Coleridge's famous poem. Here, he brings out the torment and strong feeling of guilt faced by an ancient mariner (an old sailor) who, in a moment of cruelty, killed an innocent albatross. In order to overcome his pain and guilt, he often stopped strangers and told them the story of the troubles faced by the crew as a result of his cruelty.

PARTI LINES

1-20

An old grey bearded Mariner with hypotonic, bright eyes stopped a wedding guest, who alongwith his two companions, was going to attend a wedding. The wedding guest said that he was a close relative of the bridegroom and that he had to go as the feast was ready. The ancient mariner held the young man by his arm, but he (the young man) objected to it angrily calling him an old mad man. The old sailor held him by the power of his hypnotising eyes and the wedding guest had no choice, but to listen to him like a small child.

LINES 21-40

The ancient mariner narrated his story that when he was a sailor, their ship sailed southwards on a bright sunny day. It reached the equator where the sun was directly overhead at noon. At this point, the wedding guest heard the loud music of the bassoon and was frustrated. He visualized that the bride must have entered the hall as beautiful as a rose and merry singing will be around to welcome the bride. The wedding guest stood helpless and annoyed as he had to listen to the mariner's story.

LINES 41-60

The ancient mariner continued his story stating that a dreadful storm struck his ship, pushed it at high speed towards the south direction. The storm was like a hunter chasing its prey (the ship) following it closely. The ship was moving fast making lot of noises as if it was followed by an enemy. The ship reached a place where there was lot of mist and snow. It was extremely cold as both mist and snow surrounded the ship. The ice was flowing as high as the ship looking like as green as emerald. The snow cliffs created a very sad

looking shine, as there was no life around. The ice cracked, growled, howled and roared as it moved heavily, holding the ship at one place.

LINES 61-81

The crew of the ship was disturbed with the cold weather, but it was a great relief for them when they were eventually greeted by the arrival of an albatross which came through the fog. It was welcomed by the sailors. As it flew around the ship for food and play, the ice cracked and split. A good south wind propelled the ship out of the icy region into the sea. The albatross followed the ship everyday but at one point the ancient mariner in a fit of anger shot dead the innocent bird with his crossbow. He confessed this to the wedding guest.

PART 2 LINES

80-105

The south wind continued to propel the ship northwards. The sailor soon realised that he had done a hellish thing by killing the bird that had brought the change in the breeze. But when the glorious sun rose after days of mist and snow, they all agreed that he had done a right thing to kill the bird that had earlier brought the fog and the mist. The ship sailed on until the winds brought it to a silent sea. Suddenly the winds died down and they were once

again stranded in the middle of the sea.

LINES 106-121

When the breeze stopped to blow, the sails dropped and the ship was becalmed. It was so quiet that the sailors spoke only to break the silence. All day long the red sun shone in the hot sky. Day after day for many days there was no breeze and the ship remained still motionless like a painting. The crew had no water to drink in spite of the vast sea around them. Even the boards of the ship began to shrink.

LINES 120-140

The condition of the crew was pathetic as the sea looked terrible. Soon the bright and slimy creatures crawled out of it and walked on the surface. At night, the water looked like oil and it changes its colours. The sailors had no peace even in their ship and were constantly haunted by the presence of the dead Albatross's spirit. Day after day, they had no water to drink, their tongues dried up and they were unable to even speak. The sailors held the mariner responsible for their woes and as a constant reminder of killing an innocent bird, the sailors hung the dead albatross around his neck.

SOLVED:

MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS:

Read the following extract and choose the correct option:

*A) In mist or cloud, on mast or shroud It
perched for vespers nine;
While all the night, through fog-smoke white
Glimmered the white Moon-shine*

(a) _____ 'It' in the above stanza is .

(i) the ship

(ii) the albatross

(iii) the cloud

(iv) the mist

(b) _____ Vespers nine refers to .

(i) a fixed time every day

(ii) nine hours of a day

(iii) nine days

(iv) nine weeks

(c) It _____ was a boon for the sailors because .

(i) It had brought them a lot of money

(ii) It had helped the sailors to reach the shore

(iii) It had brought luck and the sailors could move out of the land of mist and snow.

(iv) None of the above **(A) Answers**

(a) the albatross

(b) a fixed time every day / nine days

(c) it had brought luck and the sailors could move out of the land of mist and snow

II) Short Answer Questions:

a) 'God save thee, ancient Mariner from the fiends that plague thee thus! Why look'st thou so?' What does this mean?

Answer: The wedding guest wanted to know why the Mariner was looking so much tormented.

b) How does the Mariner express the fact that the ship was completely surrounded by icebergs?

Answer: Huge blocks of ice were floating here and there. The scene presents an awesome spectacle. There was no sight of human or animal nearby. There was no passage visible through which the ship could be steered. UNSOLVED:

1) Read the following extract and choose the correct option:

*(A) The ship was cheered, the harbour cleared,
Merrily did we drop.
Below the Kirk, below the hill,*

Below the lighthouse top.

Questions:-

1) **The ship was cheered by**

- a) the people on the shore
- b) the captain of the ship
- c) the ancient Mariner
- d) the young sailors

2) **Explain: MERRILY DID WE DROP.**

- a) The sailors slowed down their ship
- b) The sailors anchored their ship
- c) The sailors happily sailed away
- d) The sailors stopped making merry and began steering the ship away **3)**

The poetic device used in line 3 and 4

- a) Alliteration
- b) Repetition
- c) Metaphor
- d) Simile

*(B) He holds him with his skinny hand,
There was a ship' quoth he,
'Hold off! Unhand me, grey-bearded loon!
Festoons' his hand dropt he.*

Questions:-

1) **He holds him with his skinny hand**

- a) to test the power of his hand
- b) to enjoy his company
- c) to narrate to him his story
- d) to play a prank on him

2) The second speaker reacted to the first speaker's action very

- a) angrily
- b) respectfully
- c) mildly
- d) indifferently

3) The old mariner was speaking to

- a) The bridegroom
- b) The bride
- c) The wedding guest
- d) An old man

*(C) And I had done a hellish thing,
And it would work'em woe:
For all averred, I had killed the bird
That made the breeze to blow.
Ah wretch! Said they, the bird to slay,
That made the breeze to blow!*

Questions:-

1) The 'hellish thing' that the speaker had done was:

- a) He had killed his friend

- b) He had killed the albatross
- c) He had cheated his fellowmen
- d) He had drowned a sailor in the sea

2) Here the speaker is:

- a) The wedding guest
- b) The albatross
- c) The captain of the ship
- d) The Ancient Mariner

3) He made the breeze to blow:

- a) The Ancient Mariner
- b) The Albatross
- c) The poet
- d) The wedding guest.

- (D) *All in a hot and copper sky,
The bloody Sun, at noon.
Right up above the mast did stand,
No bigger than the Moon.*

Questions:-

1) How did the sky look:

- a) Blue as sea
- b) Dark as clouds
- c) Bright as sun
- d) Copper coloured

2) The sun was:

- a) Behind the dark clouds
- b) Behind the fog and mist
- c) right below the mast of the ship
- d) right above the mast of the ship

3) The poetic device used in this line is:

- a) Hyperbolic and simile
- b) Simile and metaphor
- c) Alliteration and personification
- d) Assonance and alliteration

II) Short Answer Questions in about 30-40 words:

- 1) How did the Ancient Mariner stop one of the wedding guests? What was his reaction?
- 2) What happened when the Ancient Mariner's ship reached the equator?
- 3) Why did the sailors hang the dead albatross round the neck of the mariner?
- 4) Briefly describe how the ship was caught in the storm?
- 5) How was the arrival of the albatross a good omen?
- 6) How does the ancient mariner describe the land of mist and snow?
- 7) What painful experience did the mariner undergo in "the silent sea"?
- 8) What impression do you form of the ancient mariner from the poem?
- 9) What consequences did the mariner have to face as a result of killing the albatross?

III) Long Answer Questions in about 100-150 words:

- 1) 'Water, water, everywhere.... Nor any drop to drink'. When does the ancient mariner make this comment?
 - 1) Describe the ship's journey from harbour to the southern sea full of mist and snow.
 - 3) The ancient mariner's shipmates are a bunch of fickle minded sailors. Comment.

4) 'Punishment does catch up with the sinner although it may be delayed sometimes'.

Comment on this statement with the reference to the poem.

5) Write a short note on the element of supernaturalism in the poem.

Snake -D. H. Lawrence

Summary: Inspired by an event in the natural world, D. H. Lawrence's poem "Snake" is about an encounter between a person and a snake; the person has to choose between listening to his own voice and admiring the snake, and listening to the voice of his education and forcing the snake to leave. Many figures of speech strengthen the power and meaning of the poem, including alliteration, simile, personification, and emphasis.

This poem, entitled "Snake" was composed by D.H. Lawrence in 1923. It is mainly about an encounter between the speaker and the snake on a very hot morning of July in Sicily, Italy. The feelings of the speaker play a very large role in the process voicing his feelings as well as his education. Lawrence places the speaker in the middle of two choices, to choose between the voice of his education and his own. At the start of the poem, the speaker admires the snake and ignores the voice of his education. But, it is not until the snake retreats back into the fissure that the speaker chooses to listen to the voice of his education and decides to pick up a log and throw it at the snake as a protest.

Lawrence introduces the poem by getting straight to the point, also using a repetition to show that it is a really hot day. Lawrence wrote the poem, possibly because it was a true story, but most likely because he was trying to display man's feelings about snakes and question it. He believes that the snake is a gentle creature, simply thirsty and grateful to be near water. To him it is a compliment. But to most, it is a natural instinct to kill the beautiful creature.

The poem indicates that even though his knowledge was telling him to end the snake right then and there. But he considered it a king, which shows that the snake had as much right to drink from the water trough as any man or beast did. Even though it was venomous, it was doing no harm.

A great technique used, as I mentioned earlier, is repetition. D. H. Lawrence uses repetition at the beginning, describing how hot the day is. Lawrence obviously wants us to know that the reason he and the snake have come to the trough is because it is a very hot day. Another technique he uses is simile. He uses it when describing the snake lifting his head like drinking cattle do. He uses the drinking cattle reference twice, showing that the snake's actions deeply resemble those

of cattle. He also uses a simile when saying that the snake looked around like a god. Another good technique Lawrence uses is when he is describing his act after he threw the log. By using the three synonyms paltry, vulgar and mean, he shows that trying to harm the creature was definitely a horrible thing to do.

SOLVED:

Multiple Choice Questions:

Read the extract and answer the questions that follow:

But suddenly that part of him that was left behind

Convulsed in undignified haste Writhed like

lighting, and was gone

Into the black hole, the earth-lipped fissure in the wall-front,

At which, in the intense still noon, I stared with fascination.

And immediately, I regretted it.

a) Which part of the snake convulsed in undignified haste?

- i) which had entered the black hole
- ii) which had left behind at the water trough
- iii) that was left behind outside the black hole
- iv) the part hit by the log.

b) Why did the poet stare at the snake with fascination?

- i) the snake was earth brown
- ii) he liked the snake
- iii) the snake had its own beauty and grace
- iv) he feared the snake

c) Why did the snake convulse in undignified haste?

- i) the snake had finished drinking
- ii) hit by log
- iii) there was intense heat outside
- iv) wanted to take rest.

Answers: a) iii b) iii c) iv

II) Short Answer Questions:

a) How does the poet describe the day when he saw the snake?

Ans. The poet happened to see the snake at the water trough on a hot day of Sicilian July. The poet went to the water trough in his pyjamas. The poet also used the image of Mount Etna to heighten the intensity of the heat. Also, the snake had come from the burning bowels of the earth to quench its thirst.

b) The poet has a dual attitude towards the snake. Why does he experience contrast emotions on seeing the snake?

Ans. When the poet saw the snake drinking water from the water trough, he was overpowered by the voices of human education and natural instinctive fascination for the snake. On one hand, the voice of modern education prompts the poet to kill the snake for golden brown snakes are poisonous. On the other hand, his natural instinct fascinated him and he felt honoured that the snake had sought his hospitality.

I Answer the following in about 40 words:

1. What was the poet on his way to do when he first became aware of the snake?
2. What was the snake doing?
3. What did the 'voice of his education' tell the poet he should do?
4. How did he actually feel about the snake when the voices told him to kill it?
5. What caused the poet's horror towards the snake?
6. What did the poet do?
7. What does he feel after having done it?
8. What does the poet mean by "the voices of my accursed education." Why are they accursed?
9. Why does the poet call the snake one of the 'Lords of Life'?
10. Why does the poet call his sin a 'pettiness'?

11. Long Answer Question:

1. Write a paragraph on: What underlying statement do you think the poet is making in 'Snake' about human beings in general and himself in particular? Support your answer with a quotation from the poem.

DRAMA JULIUS CAESAR

-WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

The Play Julius Caesar is in five acts. Given below is a brief summary of the events that happen before Act II Scene I:-

Two Roman tribunes, Flavius and Murellus, see the common people parading in

the streets instead of working in their shops. They demand to know why the men are not working. A cobbler informs them that the people are celebrating Caesar's victory.

Murellus is infuriated and tells them that Caesar has not defeated an enemy, but rather has killed the sons of Pompey the Great. Pompey previously ruled Rome along with Caesar until their alliance fell apart, at which point they went to battle over the right to rule.

Julius Caesar triumphantly returns to Rome on the festival of Lupercalia, celebrated on February 15. He is followed by Antony and Brutus and many followers.

A soothsayer approaches Caesar and calls out for attention. Caesar allows him to speak, and the man tells Caesar to, "Beware the ides of March". Caesar ignores this warning and calls the man a dreamer.

Brutus remarks to Cassius that he is afraid the people will crown Caesar king. Cassius then tells Brutus that "Brutus" is just as good a name as "Caesar", and that both names could just as easily rule Rome.

Brutus, afraid that Caesar will become a king, struggles to decide whether to take action with Cassius. Casca remains onstage with Brutus and Cassius and tells them that the three shouts they heard were because Caesar turned down the crown three times. Apparently Antony offered him the crown three times, and Caesar turned it down three times.

Casca then adds that the people forgave Caesar and worshipped him even more for turning away the crown. Cassius informs the audience in a soliloquy that he will fake several handwritten notes and throw them into

Brutus' room in an attempt to make Brutus think the common people want him to take action against Caesar.

Cassius then arrives and Casca tells him that the senators are planning to make Caesar a king the next morning. Cassius draws his dagger and threatens to die before ever allowing Caesar to achieve so much power. Casca shakes hands with Cassius and they agree to work together to prevent Caesar from seizing power.

Cinna, a co-conspirator, arrives and together they then leave to go throw Cassius' handwritten notes through Brutus' window. Cassius indicates that he is quite

sure Brutus will join them within the next day.

Brutus is in his garden and has made up his mind that Caesar must be killed. His reasons are that Caesar is abusing his power and that he has ascended far too quickly.

Lucius, Brutus' servant, brings him a letter he has found in Brutus' private room. Brutus interprets the letter as if it were from all of Rome, telling him to slay Caesar and restore the republic.

Cassius is further of the opinion that Mark Antony should be killed along with Caesar, but again Brutus is against the plan, calling it too "bloody." They plan to commit their murder of Caesar at the Senate at eight o'clock that morning (it is only three in the morning at this point). However, they are worried that Caesar will not show up because he has become so superstitious over the past few months.

Decius tells them that he knows how to flatter Caesar, and assures them that he will convince Caesar to go to the Senate. Cassius and his followers then depart, leaving Brutus alone.

Caesar, still in his nightgown, is terrified by a dream his wife Calpurnia has had in which she cried out, "Help, ho! They murder Caesar!" He orders a servant to go to the priests and have them sacrifice an animal in order to read the entrails for predictions of the future.

Calpurnia arrives and tells him that he dare not leave the house that day. Caesar acts brave and tells her that he fears nothing, and that he will die when it is necessary for him to die. The servant returns and tells him that the sacrificed animal showed a very bad omen, namely the beast did not have a heart.

Caesar insists on misinterpreting the omens, but Calpurnia begs him to blame her for his absence from the Senate, to which he finally agrees. However, Decius arrives at that moment in order to fetch Caesar to the Senate House. Caesar tells him to inform the Senate that he will not come this day. Decius claims that he will be mocked if he cannot provide a better reason than that. Caesar then tells him about Calpurnia's dream, which Decius reinterprets in a positive light.

Decius then overwhelms Caesar's resistance by asking him if the Senate should dissolve until a better time when Calpurnia has more favourable dreams.

Decius also tempts Caesar by saying that the Senate plans to give the crown to him and they may change their minds if he does not go.

Caesar tells Calpurnia that he was acting foolishly, and agrees to go to the Senate. Cassius and the other conspirators arrive at that moment to accompany him to the Senate. Antony also appears and joins the group of men who then escort Caesar out of his house.

Caesar takes his seat in the Senate and proceeds to allow Metellus Cimber to petition him. The man throws himself down at Caesar's feet in order to beg for his brother's release from banishment, but is ordered to get up. Caesar tells him that fawning will not win him any favours. At this Brutus comes forward and pleads for the man's brother. Cassius soon joins him. Caesar tells them his decision is, "constant as the Northern Star" and that he will not remove the banishment. Casca kneels and says "Speak hands for me" .Casca first, and then the other conspirators and Brutus all stab Caesar who falls saying, "Et tu, Brute? - Then falls Caesar.

Antony arrives and laments the death of Caesar. He begs the murderers, specifically Brutus, to tell him why Caesar had to be killed. Brutus tells him that Caesar was destroying the republic and had to be removed from power.