

## CHAPTER VI

### PASSAGES AND READING COMPREHENSION EXERCISES

#### The Shock of My life

It takes a lot to reach the Gods, sometimes even a 400 volt shock, so the kids of my neighbourhood learnt. It so happened that at my grandmother's place there was a mandir with a light in it. Due to some loose connection anyone who touched it received a shock. I would drag my friends to it and insist they touch the deity. If they got a shock it was only God's way of blessing them. Needless to add I kept away from it myself. Shocks were not for me, at least not till last year. Ganapati celebrations were on in full swing. One evening a friend dragged me to one of the backlanes of worli where some hundreds of my fans awaited for me. They were thrilled to see Chunky the star in person and insisted I say a few words. I picked up the mike and immediately got the 'shock' of my life. It was as if I'd been put to death so 'charged' was I that I was dancing and clapped and cheered till I rolled down. What do you call that? Divine justice?

Q.1 Find single words in this passage which have roughly the meanings given below.

- 1) Pull along.
- 2) Keen supporter of
- 3) excited feeling.

Q.2 State whether the following statements are true <sup>N</sup>/~~or~~ false.

- 1) 400 volt shock takes us to God.
- 2) God blesses us by giving a shock.
- 3) Chunky kept himself away from the shock forever.
- 4) His friend taught him a lesson.
- 5) Chunky got the punishment of his deeds.

Q.3 Answer these questions by choosing the best alternative under each. Think carefully before you make your choice.

- 1) The children were getting the shock in the temple because
  - a) they were getting the God's blessings in the form of shock.
  - b) it was Chunky's trick to give shock to children.
  - c) the diety was electrified.
  - d) of the loose connection.
- 2) Chunky was dragging his friends to the temple-
  - a) to give God's blessings to them
  - b) to show them the diety.
  - c) to give them the shock.
  - d) to play with them.

- 3) Hundreds of people were waiting in one of the backlanes of Worli -
  - a) to listen to Chunky.
  - b) to see his dance.
  - c) to listen to his song.
  - d) to see him in person.
- 4) Chunky was shaking on the stage because -
  - a) he was afraid of the mob.
  - b) he was forced by the people to speak.
  - c) he got the shock through the mike.
  - d) he was unable to sing and dance.

Q.4 Answer the following questions in brief.

- 1) Why did Chunky take his friend to the temple?
- 2) Was it true that God blessed the children by giving shock? If no, why was chunky telling this to his friends?
- 3) Why did one of his friends take Chunky to one of the backlanes of worli? What did he see there?
- 4) Describe the incident happened on the stage in your own words?
- 5) What do you mean by 'Divine Justice'? How was it done with Chunky?

Today a Peacock, Tomorrow a Feather Duster, Mystical Characters:

It is said that there was a truck driver in a small country town who wanted to honour his girl-friend, so he placed this sticker on his bumper:

"Rose Is Gorgeous." Months passed, and so did their love. Rose married the mayor, but the sticker remained on her ex-boy-friend's truck. Rose's husband was not amused and asked the police to take care of the matter. At first the ex-boy-friend ignored the police, but as requests became threats, he promised that when he returned from a trip up north, Rose's name would no longer adorn his truck's bumper. People lined the street to witness his entry in to town. His truck rolled in, horn blasting. Rose's name had disappeared; in its place was written: "I still think So."

**Q.1** Find single words in this passage which have roughly the meanings given below:

- 1) great respect.
- 2) magnificent.
- 3) add beauty
- 4) take no notice of.

**Q.2** State whether the following statements are true or false.

- 1) The truck-driver was in love with Rose, his girl-friend.
- 2) Rose's husband asked the truck-driver to remove the sticker.
- 3) After Rose's marriage also the truck-driver was in love with her.
- 4) The truck-driver was afraid of the police

**Q.3** Answer these questions by choosing the best alternative under each Think carefully- before you make your choice.

- 1) The truck-driver placed the sticker on his bumper because-
  - a) he wanted to show his love.
  - b) his beloved wanted it there.
  - c) he wanted to remember his beloved forever.
  - d) he wanted to show his respect towards his love.
- 2) Rose's husband asked the police to take care of the matter because-
  - a) he was afraid of the truck-driver.
  - b) there was a fear in his mind that he would loose his wife.

- e) he was jealous of the truck-driver
- d) he was the mayor and he thought it improper to be his wife's name on her ex-boy friend's truck bumper.

3. The truck-driver placed another sticker, "I still think so", because-

- a) he wanted to tease the mayor.
- b) he wanted to marry his girl-friend.
- c) he wanted to teach a lesson to the police.
- d) after his girl-friend's marriage also he wanted to honour her.

Q.4 Answer the following questions in brief.

- 1) What did the truck-driver do to honour his girl-friend?  
What did Rose's husband do to remove the sticker?
- 2) What did the truck-driver promise the police? Why?
- 3) How did the truck-driver keep his promise given to police and at the same time honour his girl-friend?



### Time and Again

It is ideal to get up early in the morning, say by 4 am. Most great men like Mahtma Gandhi, Lal Bahadur Shastri, Emperor Akbar, and G.D. Birla were early risers. Yogis in India have called this as Brahma muhurta when man's mental and physical energy is at it's peak. Getting up early by 4 am. is very good as it has several advantages. Your mind is fresh, there is peace all around, with no disturbances. This enables you to work with full concentration. It is as good as getting an extra day. keeping late hours is another alternative. But there are people who can neither get up very early nor sleep very late; for them, an hour in the night could help. The real rest time is between 7 to 12 pm. if one sleeps for an hour before 12 p.m. it is equivalent to two hours of sleep after 12 p.m. A Sunday afternoon nap is a must as it refreshes one for the whole week.

**Q.1** Find single words in this passage which have roughly the meanings given below.

- 1) reach the highest point.
- 2) bring or come together at one point.
- 3) short sleep during the day.

**Q.2** State whether the following statements are true or false.

- 1) Every early riser becomes a great man.
- 2) It is wise to get up early in the morning.
- 3) Yogis in India also agree that it is ideal to get up early in the morning.
- 4) To work with full concentration it is not necessary to wake up early in the morning.
- 5) Every afternoon we have to take a short sleep .

**Q.3** Answer these questions by choosing the best alternative under each. Think carefully before you make your choice.

- 1) Most of the great men
  - a) get up late in the morning.
  - b) get up early in the morning.
  - c) go to bed early in the night.
  - d) go to bed late in the night.
- 2) In this passage the word Brahma Muhurta means-
  - a) a time to sleep soundly.
  - b) a time to see sweet dreams.
  - c) a time to rise early.
  - d) a good time to work.



3) Full concentration is possible

- a) early in the morning.
- b) in the afternoon.
- c) in the evening.
- d) at night.

4) The possible alternative to get up early in the morning is -

- a) to work hard at the day time.
- b) not to take rest in the work.
- c) not to sleep at all.
- d) to sleep very late.

Q.4 Answer the following questions in brief.

- 1) What time does the writer prefer to get up? Why does he think so?
- 2) Why is it possible to work with full concentration early in the morning?
- 3) What alternative does the writer suggest for getting up early in the morning? What pattern does he suggest to take real rest?

### Widows Wrecks of Humanity.

In most parts of the country a widow is considered a kulakshani (an evil omen), or a daaken (a woman who has eaten her husband). She can wear no make-up, jewellery, or colourful sarees. She must eat bland food, and keep away from joyous functions. Among the Rajputs, a widow is given no bread for the first 12 days of her husband's death. Also her bangles are forcibly broken, sindoor (vermilion) removed and, dressed in blue, she is fed on flour blended in water. She is made to sit in a dark room with her legs folded under her thighs. She can not share in jokes. She is never allowed to go even to the house of a relative to offer congratulations on the birth of a son. Remarriage is considered even more disgraceful than leaving one's husband for another man. Among castes where 'natta' is allowed, the woman is not even considered married. She remains a natta even when a man decides to marry another woman. Among several castes, a widow is simply and indifferently auctioned off by the inlaws under the jhagra system, to the highest bidder.

Q.1 Find single words in this passage which have roughly the meanings given below.

- 1) Woman who has not married again after her husband's death.
- 2) bringing loss of respect.
- 3) A person who offers a price of the auctioned thing.

Q.2 State whether the following statements are true or false.

- 1) In India a widow is provided with lux<sup>u</sup>rious life.
- 2) A widow is not given a good food to eat.
- 3) A widow can offer congratulations on a birth of a son.
- 4) A man can not marry again after her wife's death.
- 5) Every where in India a widow is auctioned.

Q.3 Answer these questions by choosing the best alternative under each. Think carefully before you make your choice.

- 1) In most parts of India a widow is considered as a -
  - a) sign of good.
  - b) sign of success.
  - c) sign of evil.
  - d) sign of loss.
- 2) A widow is kept away from joyous functions because -
  - a) she is unhappy.
  - b) she does not want to take part in such functions.
  - c) her husband is not alive to give her company.
  - d) people think that she will bring misfortune there.

- 3) A widow is fed on flour blended in water because-
- a) it is a nourishing food to eat.
  - b) she does not wish to eat tasty food.
  - c) she wants to show her grief on her husband's loss by eating such food.
  - d) People think that she is responsible for her husband's death.
- 4) In this passage "Watta" means-
- a) a person gives a status of a wife to a widow.
  - b) a widow has been given all the rights of a wife.
  - c) she has been treated as other relatives.
  - d) a person keeps only sexual relationship with a widow.

Q.4 Answer the following questions in brief.

- 1) What do people call the widow in most parts of the country? Why?
- 2) What type of treatment is given to the widow at various parts of the country?
- 3) Can we say that every widow is responsible for her husband's death? State the possible reasons because of which the widows are given such an inhuman treatment.
- 4) Do we give such type of treatment to widowers? If no, what do we have to do for the upliftment of the widows?

### A Cup of Tea

Monsoon brings rain. Rain which lashes on the window panes with cool winds blowing in and out. This is the time when one badly needs warmth which often comes from a hot steaming cup of tea or coffee. One sip of tea in this weather and the heat seeps through the body. It is an immense pleasure which one experiences; a kind of eternal satisfaction. A business of a friendly chat becomes more interesting if there is a cup of tea on the table. After sleep or after hard work, a hot cup of tea is always welcome. Tea is a universal drink and is a poor as well as the rich man's drink. Who came across this wonder-drink? What is the Origin of tea?

Nobody knows when or how the first cup of tea was brewed.

The tea-story began in China when some wild tea leaves fell into boiling drinking water of Emperor Shen Nung who reigned over China in 2737 B.C. Tea-drinking in India is also as old as it is in China. In India, wild tea plants grew in abundance in Assam. The place remained a centre of tea-plantations for quite some time. Tea-plantations were later established in North Bengal and Nilgiris in South India. Besides the Chinese and Indians, tea was exported from China to all European countries.

Generally tea-plants are grown in areas where the summer is moist and warm and the winter not too cold. The plant usually propagates vegetatively. The tea-plants are initially planted in nurseries and then replanted out in the field.

The life-span of a tea-bush is around 50 years. The best quality commercial tea is made from two young leaves and a leaf bud plucked from plant tips during the harvest season which lasts from March to November.

Q.1 Find single words in this passage which have roughly the meanings given below.

- 1) Very much.
- 2) lasting for ever.
- 3) prepared by boiling.

Q.2 State whether the following statements are true or false.

- 1) In monsoon we are badly in need of drinking tea or coffee to bring warmth.
- 2) We get eternal satisfaction by looking the rain.
- 3) Everybody can not afford the drink, tea.
- 4) No special efforts are taken to grow the tea-plants.

Q.3 Answer these questions by choosing the best alternative under each. Think carefully before you make your choice.

1) It is an immense pleasure which one experiences—Here 'it' means—

- a) the rain.
- b) cool winds blowing in and out.
- c) the window panes on which the rain lashes.
- d) a hot sip of tea in this cold weather.

2) Tea is a drink of—

- a) poor
- b) rich
- c) men
- d) everybody.

3) The origin of tea is-

- a) India.
- b) China.
- c) Malaisia.
- d) not known to anybody.

4) In India at the beginning the tea-plantation was done in-

- 1) Assam
- 2) North Bengal.
- 3) Nilgiris
- 4) Maharashtra.

Q.4 Answer the following Questions in brief.

- 1) When do we need a cup of tea or coffee? How does the writer describe this experience?
- 2) What does the writer say about tea as a drink?
- 3) What is the origin of tea?
- 4) What type of weather does it require? Where do we get tea-plantation in India?
- 5) How is the best quality commercial tea prepared? What is the harvest season of tea?



### The Bird From Heaven

Mango orchards resonate with the flutelike notes of the golden oriole when it takes refuge in them from April to July, its breeding season. One can hardly miss the plaintive pee-10-10.

Also known as the mango bird, it is more easily heard than seen, because it is so shy and secretive. The song and the bird have the reputation of being from heaven.

Orioles are found in Europe, Africa and Asia. In India they are found in mountainous areas up to an altitude of 1,800 metres, and in the plains from Rajasthan to West Bengal and in South India.

"Oriole" comes from the Greek word "aureolus" meaning yellow. In India golden oriole is known by various names----"Peelak" in Hindi, Gujarati and Marathi, "Poshnul" or "Poshinul" in Kashmiri, "Sona Ban" in Bengali, "Vanga Pandu" in Telugu and "Manjakkili" in Malayalam, all referring to its bright yellow colour.

The Indian golden oriole is about 25 cm in length. The myna-like bird is a striking combination of golden yellow (body) and black (wings and central tail feathers). The broad black line passing across the eyes is conspicuous. The females are less flamboyantly coloured than the males. They are green with dark brown wings. This colour combination makes it difficult to spot them among trees.

Arboreal, orioles keep hidden in the trees. The males

fleet across the thick foliage lik a flash of gold- a short, swift and dipping flight. They rarely descend to the undergrowth or th the ground.

The artistic cup-shaped nests are suspended, hammocklike, from a forked twig and are made of fine grass, scraps of paper, rags and thread. They completely hide the eggs and nestlings and provide safety from strong winds.

The eggs have a sprinkling of black or brown spots. Each clutch has three to four eggs which take about 15 days to hatch. The nestlings are looked after by both the parents untill they are able to fly.

These birds live on fruits, berries, nectar and insects and are wary of large birds of prey who swoop down on them. Ohter birds such as crows and couc&ls snatch away oriole eggs.

A beautiful gift of nature, these golden songsters are a pleasure to behold and melodions to hear.

**Q.1 Match the words in list 'A' with their meanings in list 'B'**

'A'	'B'
1) altitude	- easily seen
2) conspicuous	- all the leaves of a tree
3) flamboyant	- piece of ground with fruit trees.
4) foliage	- height
5) hammock	- brightly coloured and decorated
6) orchard.	- hanging bed of canvas.

**Q.2 State whether the following statements are true or false.**

- 1) Oriole sings very sweetly.
- 2) Orioles are found all over the world.
- 3) Female orioles are bright coloured.
- 4) Orioles come often to the ground to find out their food.
- 5) Orioles' nests show their craftsmanship.

**Q.3 Answer these questions by choosing the correct alternative under each. Think carefully before you make your choice.**

- 1) We do not see orioles often because
  - a) it is so little.
  - b) it never comes to the ground.
  - c) it is a heavenly bird.
  - d) Most of the time it remains in the tree.

- 2) All the names of oriole refer to-
  - a) his size.
  - b) to his sweet music.
  - c) to his colour.
  - d) to his craftsmanship.
- 3) We can not spot the femal oriole among the trees because-
  - a) of it's size.
  - b) it never comes out.
  - c) of its green colour with drak brown wings.
  - d) it does not come out of the nest.
- 4) Orioles are always worried of-
  - a) the wind.
  - b) their babies.
  - c) the large birds of prey
  - d) their eggs.

Q.4 Answer the following questions in brief.

- 1) How does the writer describe oriole's sweet music?
- 2) What does the writer say about oriole's shy nature?
- 3) Where do we find oriole in India?
- 4) Give discription of male and female oriole.
- 5) How do the orioles prepare their nest?
- 6) What do the orioles eat?

Q.5 In colum 'A' different languages are given and in colum 'B' names of oricle are given. Match names with the languages.

'A'	'B'
1) Bengali	peelak
2) Gujarati	poshnul
3) Hindi	sona Ban
4) Kashmiri	Vanga pandu
5) Malayalam	Magjakkili
6) Marathi	
7) Telgu.	

## World war I

### Air warfare

At the beginning of world war I, air craft production had not as yet become a technique of jigs, dies, fixtures and special fittings, Each and every aeroplane was a handmade task. No country, not even France, supposed to be far more air-minded than any other nation, had available 400 combat planes in Aug. 1914.

The ideas of the general staffs were clear with regard to how they were going to employ their cavalry, artillery, infantry and their navies, but the aeroplane was still an unknown quantity. All agreed that it had great possibilities as a reconnaissance vehicle. It could go behind the enemy lines and locate troops, concentrations of reserves moving along the roads, and it might even find them in bivouac, even in woods. What else could the aeroplane be used for?

The air enthusiasts were sure that it could be used in combat against other planes, that it could be used to carry bombs and destroy predesignated targets, but how? So it was that world War I became one of the best proving grounds to develop the aeroplane as a combat weapon.

Q.1 Find single words in this passage which have roughly the meanings given below.

- a) To fix one's attention steadily on.
- 2) soldiers' temporary camp without tent or other cover.
- 3) marked or painted out clearly previously.

Q.2 State whether the following statements are true or false.

- 1) At the beginning of world-war I aeroplanes were prepared to take part in the war.
- 2) At the beginning of world-war I production of an aeroplane was technically perfect.
- 3) Before world-war I no aeroplane was used in the war.
- 4) It was the opinion of the air-enthusiasts that the aeroplane could be used in the war.

Q.3 Answer these questions by choosing the best alternative under each. Think carefully before you make your choice.

- 1) The aeroplanes were not used as combat weapons before world war I because-
  - a) They were specially made for travelling purposes
  - b) The trained pilots were not available.
  - c) They were not technically perfect.
  - d) The people were afraid of the consequences of its use as a combat weapon.
- 2) The aeroplane was still an unknown quantity means-
  - a) aeroplane was not prepared up to that time
  - b) It was prepared but the trials were not taken
  - c) Nobody knew how to use it
  - d) No body knew how to use it as a combat weapon.

- 3) The World War I made the air enthusiasts to think-
- a) about how to build a plane.
  - b) the plane as a disasterious thing.
  - c) that it should not be used in the war.
  - d) about how to use the plane as a combat weapon.
- 4) 400 combat planes were there in August 1914 with-
- a) Japan.
  - b) France.
  - c) America.
  - d) India.

Q.4 Answer the following questions in brief.

- 1) Why were the aeroplanes not need in World War I?
- 2) For what purposes was the aeroplane used before World War I?
- 3) How did World-War I become one of the best proving grounds to develop the aeroplane as a combat-weapon?



## Sculpture Technique:

### Wood Carving.

Wood-carving consists entirely in a sort of elimination of parts obscuring the desired image. Although the mechanical process is simple, the training required by the carver before he can put it into practice is by no means simple. Firstly, the carver must have a clear idea of what he is about to carve; its shape and form have to be studied before he makes a cut. He must have long practised the use of his various tools; he must know how to conquer the very serious difficulty which the grain of the wood presents in every inch of his work. Many years of laborious practice at last enable him to master all these problems. Of course there are many cases in which such skill and knowledge are neither to be found nor expected. The more sophisticated carver is not content to stop at this stage; he experiments with new forms, invents new tools, and slowly builds up a coherent manner of work which embodies both knowledge of form and skill in the use of his tools. From beginner to master, from generation to generation, this goes on, and so shapes it self into a dignified art- an art which demands a keen love of beautiful form and a constant pleasure in the use of the creative faculties.

Q.1 Find single words in this passage which have roughly the meanings given below.

- 1) overcome enemies.
- 2) bodily or mental work done with the efforts.
- 3) having learnt the ways of the world.

Q.2 State whether the following statements are true or false.

- 1) It is very simple to carve.
- 2) Much practice is not needed to become a good carver.
- 3) sophisticated carver is content with imitating the others.
- 4) Laborious work of many years bring perfection in carving.

Q.3 Answer these questions by choosing the best alternative under each. Think carefully before you make your choice.

- 1) Wood carving consists a process of-
  - a) cutting
  - b) thinning
  - c) eliminating
  - d) drilling
- 2) It is not easy to become a carver because.
  - a) Not many schools for training are available.
  - b) There is a scarcity of trained teachers.
  - c) It is very difficult to learn it.
  - d) It requires many years of laborious practice.

- 3) The sophisticated carver is the person who-
- a) follows the old rules strictly.
  - b) uses old tools perfectly.
  - c) knows quality of wood.
  - d) experiments and tries to invent something new.
- 4) Dignified art demands-
- a) love towards the art.
  - b) knowledge of using tools.
  - c) proper guidance
  - d) knowledge of form and creativity.

Q.4 Answer the following questions in brief.

- 1) Why is it said that the training to become a carver is not simple?
- 2) What does the carver need to become successful?
- 3) What does the sophisticated carver do to get satisfaction?
- 4) What is the meaning of a dignified art? Explain it in your own words.

### Scuba Diving

While the eyes of the world are now focussed on outer space, more down-to-earth scientists keep telling us that the future, economically speaking, is under the sea. The ocean floor is one of the few remaining areas of exploration. Yet for only a few pounds and how and then the cost of an annual holiday anybody can become a Scuba diver (Scuba means Self-contained Underwater Breathing Apparatus)

Sometimes quite close to the shore line lies various substances, a silent paradise available to the explorer, the specialist, the photographer or just the holiday maker. Indeed you may merely wish to dive for your own salad lobster (a fish which is often called as a shellfish).

Exciting yet safe, Scuba diving is one of the most satisfying of pursuits. It can be learned, initially anyway, free of charge, at many local baths.

- 11) If alternatives fall in a logical arrangement (for example, alphabetically or by magnitude), list them in this order. Otherwise randomize the positions of the correct responses so that they do not fall into pattern.
- 12) Try to have each item test only one central concept or idea.<sup>1</sup>

This type of items are also included in this programme, which will be helpful to the pupils as well as the teacher for assessment.

#### 5.4 Short Answer Items :

Short answer item requires the student to respond to a question in a sentence or two. When instructor thinks that student should be able to recall material, rather than just recognize correct responses, he will use short answer items. It usually is easier and less time-consuming to compose a short answer item than to build a good multiple-choice item.

The major disadvantage of this format involves scoring. take longer than for recognition items, it requires some decision-making on the part of the scorer, and thus may decrease reliability. It is obvious that there are a large number of possible responses that will be wholly or partially correct. When scoring this item, the teacher would have to decide which responses were acceptable and how much credit would be allowed for each variation, Scoring can be made

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\*1. G., Brown. Principles of Educational and Psychological Testing. 2nd Edn. New York: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1976. P. 255.

**Q.1 Match the words in list 'A' with their meanings in list 'B'**

- | 'A'         |   | 'B'                                       |
|-------------|---|---|
| 1) Ocean    | - | the garden of Eden                        |
| 2) paradise | - | that in which all objects exist and move. |
| 3) shore    | - | the great body of water.                  |
| 4) space    | - | stretch of land bordering on the sea.     |

**Q.2 State whether the following statements are true or false.**

- 1) The writer wants to stress the exploration of the sea through this passage.
- 2) The writer wants to suggest that every person has to become a scuba diver.
- 3) We may learn scuba diving more as a fun.
- 4) We enjoy a scuba diving for only a few pounds.

**Q.3 Answer these questions by choosing the best alternatives under each. Think carefully before you make your choice.**

- 1) The ocean floor-
  - a) is widely explored.
  - b) is hardly explored.
  - c) remains an unexplored area.
  - d) is not so important as outer space.
- 2) Down-to-earth scientists tell us that in future, exploration of the sea will be-
  - a) necessary
  - b) economical

- c) absolutely safe
  - d) abandoned.
- 3) Scuba has made diving-
- a) Free from all dangers.
  - b) mechanical
  - c) cheaper than driving
  - d) somewhat safe.
- 4) The writer of the passage is ----- exploration.
- a) arguing for
  - b) laughing at
  - c) criticizing.
  - d) indifferent to.
- 5) In the first sentence of the third paragraph the author implies that exciting things tend to be-
- a) always safe.
  - b) nearly always safe.
  - c) usually safe.
  - d) rarely safe.

Q.4 Answer the following questions in brief.

- 1) Why does the writer say that we have to stress the exploration of the sea in future?
- 2) How is it beneficial for us to become a scuba diver?
- 3) Where can we get the training of Scuba diving?

### Spiritual Knowledge is Man's Great Wealth

As compared with other creations of God, man is extremely fortunate since he can put the various sense organs to proper use and get benefited thereby. The various faculties gifted to Him are intended to adore God for the opportunities He had provided to get enlightenment. The Hands should offer salutations and the words should praise His glory. The ear should be tuned to listen to expositions relating to God's sports and his various compassionate acts to help people to tide over problems.

Listening to the advice tendered by spiritual leaders and learned scholars who have been up holding the rules of righteousness is considered to be the greatest wealth of a man. Listening includes learning and they are considered treasures among treasures. The wealth that a man acquires in the form of property and cash will perish but knowledge acquired through learning will be permanent.

Apart from receiving moral instructions from wise men, the knowledge so acquired should be shared with others who were not fortunate to have such a privilege. Spiritual knowledge will elevate a person from the lower level and ultimately lead him to the altar of God. Those who possess all the facilities to listen to worthy men and yet do not take steps in that direction can be considered as having lost a golden opportunity.





The weighty words of the virtuous serve as sticks handled by men groping in the dark. If, even after so much of genuine advice, people do not attend to expositions on matters relating to good conduct, their living may be considered a waste.

**Q.1 Match the words in list 'A' with their meanings in list 'B'.**

'A'	'B'
1) compassionate	- lift up
2) elevate	- act of showing respect.
3) grope	- feeling for the sufferings of others.
4) righteousness	- search about in the dark
5) salutation	- doing what is morally right.

**Q.2 State whether the following statements are true or false.**

- 1) The man is the most fortunate animal.
- 2) The man uses all his sense organs to adore the God.
- 3) The scholars are wealthy persons.
- 4) One follows the advice given by spiritual persons, he achieves God.

**Q.3 Answer these questions by choosing the best alternative under each. Think carefully before you make your choice.**

- 1) Man is the most fortunate among all the animals because -
  - a) he can pray the God.
  - b) he can salute
  - c) he can speak
  - d) he can use his sense organs properly.

- 2) In the second paragraph the speaks of a wealth,  
here he refers the word 'wealth' to
- a) money.
  - b) property.
  - c) Knowledge.
  - d) generosity.
- 3) Spiritual knowledge will elevate a person from the  
lower level were the word 'level' refers to -
- a) status.
  - b) money-
  - c) height -
  - d) knowledge.
- 4) In last paragraph 'weighty words' means-
- a) long words.
  - b) difficult words.
  - c) full with weight.
  - d) full with wisdom.
- Q.5 Answer the following questions in brief.
- 1) Why does the writer call the man as the most fortunate?
  - 2) What is the greatest wealth of a man ? Why?
  - 3) Why does the writer think necessary to listen to the spiritual leaders?
  - 4) What type of behaviour does the writer desire from the man?

### Urbanizations

This "urbanization" of men took place about six thousand years ago. An interesting and noteworthy feature of this is that urban Civilization evolved, flourished and mainly clustered round river-valleys, The rich fertile soil brought by the rivers and the ever-assured supply of plenty of water made agriculture easy as well as profitable. The rivers also served as waterways facilitating transport. They opened up for man contacts with his counter parts in the other parts of the land. These contacts led him to recognize the need to produce more and this in its turn necessitated taking the help of others and working collectively. The need to produce more and more led him to bringing more land under cultivation. Thus even the distant and interior lands were brought under plough. Flood water was controlled by diverting it to the fields- through irrigation channels. While some people engaged themselves in such agricultural operations, the others attended to producing other necessities like clothing, pottery, utensils and the like This gave rise to different trades and occupations among the people.

**Q.1 Match the words in list 'A' with their meanings in list 'B'**

'A'	'B'
1) Civilization	- Producing much.
2) fertile	- change from a rural to town life.
3) harness	- improved state of living.
4) perennial	- control.
5) urbanization	- lasting for a long time.

**Q.2 State whether the following statements are true or false.**

- 1) Urban civilization evolved round the rivers and valleys.
- 2) Rivers were used only to supply water for agriculture.
- 3) Rivers brought the people from different parts together.
- 4) Everybody was engaged in agricultural operations.

**Q.3 Answer these questions by choosing the best alternatives under each. Think carefully before you make your choice.**

- 1) The writer wants to speak in this passage about-
  - a) rivers and valleys.
  - b) agriculture.
  - c) transportation.
  - d) urban civilization.

2) Agriculture was easy and profitable because-

- a) much land was available.
- b) plenty of water was available.
- c) hard working people were there.
- d) fertilizers were available.

3) It was needed to produce more because -

- a) so many people came to live together.
- b) their needs were increased.
- c) they started to store it.
- d) the contacts with the people in other parts were increased.

4) There started different trades-

- a) for the sake of enjoyment.
- b) because agriculture was not sufficient to all.
- c) to fulfil other necessities.
- d) because liking was increased in different trades.

Q.4 Answer the following questions in brief.

- 1) Why did the urban civilization evolve and flourish round river-valleys?
- 2) How were the rivers helpful for the agriculture and transport?
- 3) How did the people come together? Why did they start to produce more?
- 4) How did different trades and occupations start?

Smoking - A major Cause for Lung cancer-

Medical studies, both experimental and clinical have been conducted all over the world on the harmful effects of smoking on health. The findings of the committees set up by the Royal College of Physicians of the U.K. and those of the committees set up by the Surgeon-General of the U.S. Public Health services, reveal that smoking is a major cause of cancer of the lung and a contributory factor in heart ailment and bronchitis.

In India, not many medical studies have been conducted on the effects of smoking on health. Some recent studies have shown that the major health hazard related to smoking is lung cancer, and that smoking is a significant risk factor for heart disease. Statistics shows that during the past few years, there has been an increasing trend in the incidence of chronic bronchitis, is also pretty high. Smoking is mainly responsible for this.

Various studies indicate that, while in the western countries the over-all cigarette-smoking rate has gone down during the past few years, in the developing countries the smoking rate has been increasing. The world Health Organisation has warned that an epidemic of lung cancer is likely to come within a decade in the Third world, because of the alarming increase in smoking in many developing countries.

When a person inhales cigarette smoke, it suddenly attacks delicate tissues in the mouth, the throat, the breathing tubes and the lungs. After the smoke passes through the mouth, the lungs retain a high percentage of almost all the organic chemicals inhaled. Nine out of ten lung cancer victims are smokers. There are many chemical substances in cigarette smoke. The most damaging are nicotine, tar and carbon monoxide.

Nicotine makes the blood vessels tight. It cuts down the flow of blood and oxygen through the body. As a result, the heart has to pump harder. Nicotine is so dangerous that one drop of it, if injected, can kill a person. Tar damages the delicate lung tissues, causing cancer. Carbon monoxide (the same poisonous gas is emitted in car exhausts) dissolves in the blood, and passing through the lungs, it combines with haemoglobin. This gas drives the oxygen out of the red blood cells. The levels of carbon monoxide in smokers' blood are four times higher than those in the blood of non-smokers.



**Q.1** Find single words in this passage which have roughly the meanings given below.

- 1) Spreading rapidly.
- 2) Violent and sudden attack
- 3) without exaggeration

**Q.2** State whether the following statements are true or false.

- 1) Only smoking causes cancer of the lung.
- 2) Smoking is one of the major causes of heart disease.
- 3) In India the smoking rate has gone down during the past few years.
- 4) Nicotine is injurious to health.
- 5) The level of carbon monoxide in non-smoker's blood is higher than those in the blood of smokers.

**Q.3** Answer these questions by choosing the best alternative under each. Think carefully before.

- 1) smoking is-
  - a) good for health-
  - b) pleasant to us.
  - c) prestigious to us.
  - d) harmful to body.
- 2) In India, during the past few years Cigarette-smoking rate-
  - a) has gone down.
  - b) has increased.
  - c) has remained on the same level.
  - d) is on zero level.

3) Ligarette smoke affects-

- a) the mouth.
- b) the throat
- c) the lungs.
- d) the delicate tissues in the mouth throat and the lungs.

Q.4 Answer the following questions in brief.

- 1) What do the medical studies all over the world shew regarding the consequences <sup>of</sup> cigarette smoking?
- 2) What does the writer speak of the cigarette- smoking rate in developed and developing countries? What warning is given by the world Health Organisation to the third world?
- 3) How does different chemicals in smoke affect different parts of our body?
- 4) What ways will you suggest to avoid this peril? risk?

### Illuminating the Noble Path

Shakyamuni was born a prince with a name Siddhartha Gantama in 563 B.C. His birth place was in the Lumbini Gardens, located in India just south of the Himalaya Mountains, near the Nepalese border. Gantama grew up surrounded by luxury yet came to realize the extent of human suffering through his observations of age, illness, death and poverty.

Gantama left his wife and new born son to seek an answer to the causes of human suffering. He discarded his possessions, shaved his head, donned a simple robe and became a beggar. Practicing severe asceticism for six years, he nearly starved. It was during this period that Gantama became known as Shakyamuni. Unable to find the answers he was looking for, Shakyamuni sat down beneath a bodhi (sacred fig) tree and withdrew into deep meditation. During this meditation, he attained Nirvana. After further meditation, Shakyamuni (now the Buddha) decided to teach others the way to achieve Nirvana.

The Buddha taught that only through individual effort could a person attain Nirvana and thus be released from the cycle of rebirth. His teachings are embodied in the central doctrine of Buddhism, the four Noble Truths and the Eight fold Path. The four Noble Truths hold that all existence is suffering; suffering is caused by egocentric craving or desire; there is an end to suffering; and the Eight fold path

is the way to eliminate desire or craving and thus bring an end to suffering .

The Eight fold Path, often symbolized by an eight spoked wheel, advocates a balanced life of moderation through Right views, Right Resolve, Right Speech, Right conduct, Right Livelihood, Right Effort, Right Mindfulness and Right concentration.

The Buddha died at the age of 80 near the town of kushinagar.

**Q.1 Match the words in list 'A' with their meanings in list 'B'.**

'A'	'B'
1) craving	- having pains.
2) Luxury	- state of being poor.
3) meditation	- comfortable life
4) poverty	- strong desire.
5) suffering	- think about.

**Q.2 State whether the following statements are true or false**

- 1) Gautama was born in a poor family.
- 2) Gautama left the luxurious life because it does not afford him.
- 3) By leaving luxurious life Gautama could not get the answer he was looking for.
- 4) By following Eight fold path we can bring suffering to an end.
- 5) After meditation Gautama got answer he was looking for.

**Q.3 Answer these questions by choosing the best alternative under each. Think carefully before you make your choice.**

- 1) Gautama came to know the human suffering-
  - a) through experience.
  - b) through reading.
  - c) through looking.
  - d) through tales.

- 2) Gautama threw away the luxurious life because-
  - a) it was not affordable to him.
  - b) his parents did not wish to provide him such a life.
  - c) he did not want to be recognized by his parents in his exile.
  - d) he thought that he would get the answer to the causes of human suffering by living a simple life.
- 3) Gautama got the answer to the causes of human suffering through-
  - a) leaving his wife and newborn baby.
  - b) leaving luxurious life.
  - c) starving himself.
  - d) meditation beneath a bodhi tree.
- 4) We can bring suffering to an end by -
  - a) meditation
  - b) leaving the house
  - c) suffering ourselves
  - d) following eightfold path.

Q.4 Answer the following questions in brief.

- 1) Who was Shakyamuni? How did he come to know the human suffering?
- 2) Why did Gautama leave his luxurious life?
- 3) What did Gautam do to seek an answer to the causes of human suffering?
- 4) How did Gantama become buddha?
- 5) What did he teach the people?

### Good English or English Medium.

#### The Craze for English Medium.

During the pre- and post-Independence period, all post-S.S.C. courses and all competitive examinations were in English. In comparison to Marathi medium students the English medium students were often successful in those examinations. Parents, therefore, felt that there was no alternative than putting their children in English medium schools. Although the British left India long ago they left a lasting impact of English language on our minds.

Even those parents who did not know English decided to admit their children in expensive English medium schools. Rich parents were the first to take this step and it soon became a fashion and later a status symbol. Middle class parents followed this blindly and this craze soon spread all over Maharashtra like an epidemic. However, inspite of all these influences Marathi medium students became doctors and engineers in their future careers.

Except for science, technology and medicine all other courses including those of post-graduation are now conducted in Marathi medium and are also taught and examined in Marathi. But the educational institutions are not willing to start such classes because they feel that they may not get enough number of students.

Q.1 Find single words in this passage which have roughly the meanings given below.

- 1) enthusiastic interest.
- 2) Spreading rapidly.
- 3) high priced.

Q.2 State whether the following statements are true or false.

- 1) During pre-and post independence period all the examinations were in English.
- 2) Every English medium student was getting success in competitive examinations.
- 3) English medium schools were very expensive.
- 4) No marathi medium student was having a bright future.
- 5) Nowadays the courses in Science, Technology, and medicine are conducted in Marathi in Maharashtra.

Q.3 Answer these questions by choosing the best alternatives under each. Think carefully before you make your choice.

- 1) During pre-and post independence period, parents were admitting their children to English medium schools because-
  - a) so many English medium schools were there .
  - b) British left a lasting impact of English language on our mind.
  - c) All post S.S.C. courses and competitive examinations were in English.
  - d) only English medium students were permitted to appear post S.S.C. courses and competitive examinations.



2. Parents felt that there was no alternative than putting their children in English medium schools because-
- a) standard of teaching in those schools was good.
  - b) learning of English was necessary for their children.
  - c) those schools were preparing the students for further studies properly.
  - d) more English medium students were getting success in post S.S.C. courses and competitive examinations.

3. Educational institutes are not willing to start Marathi medium classes because-

- a) the students from these schools do not have bright future.
- b) these schools do not get sufficient aid.
- c) they think that they may not get enough students.
- d) they think that Marathi is not as important as English.

**Q.4** Answer the following questions in brief.

- 1) Why were English medium students often successful in competitive examinations when compared to Marathi medium students?
- 2) Why did the parents given more importance to English medium schools?
- 3) What is the situation of all the courses in respect of medium in Maharashtra at present?

## Changing India

### Development

We devoted ourselves to the major problem that confirmed as economic and social progress and the betterment of our people. Even before Independence, we had given much thought to this matter and had come to the conclusion that we should proceed by the method of planning. Our resources were limited and we wanted to utilize them to the best advantage to attain declared objectives. After Independence, a constituent Assembly was formed to draw up the new constitution of India; this declared that India was to be a sovereign, democratic Republic which should secure for all its citizens justice—social, economic and political; liberty of thought, expression, belief, faith and worship; equality of status and of opportunity. And among them all it was to promote fraternity, assuring the dignity of the individual and the unity of the nation.

On January 26, 1950, this new republic came into existence and all our efforts were directed toward realising the objectives laid down— political democracy and economic justice. We called the objective socialistic without adhering to any theoretical definition of the word. The system we evolved was consciously directed toward the welfare of the common man rather than to enrichment of the few; it is democratic because its processes are ultimately controlled by public discussion and by Parliament elected on the basis of universal adult franchise, and not by the secret purposes of a privileged minority.

**Q.1** Find single words in this passage which have roughly the meanings given below.

- 1) make use of.
- 2) having highest power.
- 3) brotherly feeling.

**Q.2** State whether the following statements are true or false.

- 1) We can solve the economic and social problems with the help of planning.
- 2) There is no relation between economic, social progress and the betterment of the people.
- 3) Economic and social equality was there in India before Independence.
- 4) On January 26, 1950, a new republic came into existence and all our problems were solved.

**Q.3** Answer the questions by choosing the best alternative under each. Think carefully before you make your choice.

- 1) Even before Independence, we had given much thought to this matter. Here 'this matter' relates with
  - a) Independence.
  - b) planning
  - c) poverty
  - d) economic and social progress.
- 2) 'this' declared that India was to be a sovereign, democratic Republic---- Here 'this' refers to -
  - a) a constituent assembly
  - b) the constitution of India.

- c) The Prime minister of India.
  - d) The President of India.
- 3) India became a sovereign democratic republic on-
- a) 15<sup>th</sup> August 1947.
  - b) 26<sup>th</sup> January 1950.
  - c) 1<sup>st</sup> May 1960.
  - d) 2<sup>nd</sup> February 1869.
- 4) After Independence all the efforts are directed for the welfare of-
- a) the industrialists.
  - b) the politicians.
  - c) the common man.
  - d) the rich man.

Q.4 Answer the following questions in brief.

- 1) What were the major problems against India before the Independence? What were the difficulties for solving those problems?
- 2) What have we been offered by the constitution of India?
- 3) What are the objectives against free India?
- 4) Define the word 'democratic' in your own words?
- 5) 'The system we evolved was consciously directed toward the welfare of the common man rather than to enrichment of the few.' Discuss this statement in light of your own experiences.