



ARTICLE REPORT AND SPEECH



Eng. L. - 19

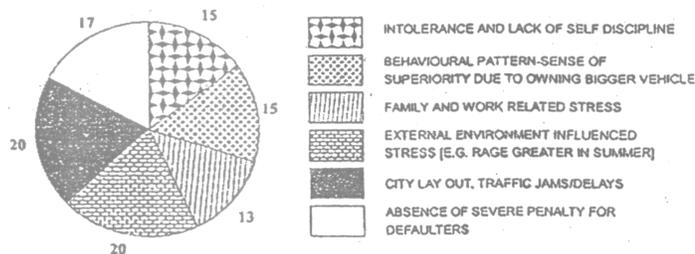
19.1 REPORT AND ARTICLE :

This question expects a student to write a report or a factual description based on verbal input provided.

- (i) Given a suitable heading ;
- (ii) Write the name of the reporter ;
- (iii) Write the body of the report (content)
- (iv) Content should contain: 'when, where, why, what. Who, how'.

- A. Vaibhav / vibha Asher is quite concerned about the increasing incident of deaths and accidents caused due to the endemic disorder called road rage. He / she decides to write an article on the need for people to control their anger and inculcate the habit of disciplined driving. Study the following information and write Vaibhav's article in not more than 200 words.

CAUSES OF ROAD RAGE



Avoid road rage-be a disciplined motorist

- Know traffic rules
- Be courteous to fellow drivers
- Start before time if you have an appointment
- Maintain your cool-don't carry stress while driving
- Check your words and actions - count ten when angry

Sol.

VOLENCE ON THE ROADS

By : valbhav / vibha Asher

The recent film 'Changing Lanes' brought into sharp focus the endemic disorder called 'road rage' with the number of vehicles increasing everyday, it is on the increase all over the world. We can see clearly from the graph that the factors that compound road rage are : intolerance and lack of self discipline, having a sense of superiority and control while driving, family and work stress, environmental stress, traffic jams and delays along with absence of severe penalty for defaulters.

We need to remember that 'License to Drive is not a License to Kill'. To avoid road-rage a sense of discipline and responsibility has to be inculcated among all motorists.

We must pledge to know and abide by the traffic rules. Respect and courtesy to fellow drivers must be the norm. when leaving the house for an appointment, start early, in order to maintain your cool if there is a delay. Do not be on a short fuse while driving. Always measure your words and actions. Counting up to ten is a good rule of the thumb to avoid stress and unpleasant situations.

Every calm and disciplined driver helps to save precious lives. Always remember to : Be polite and share the Road rage will away.

Thank you and have a nice day.

B You are Abhishek / Aishwarya. You happened to see the following lines in a newspaper.

"we all mourn and groan about the loss of the quality of life through the destruction of our Ecology, and yet each one of us, in our comfortable little ways contributes daily to that Destruction. It is time now to awaken in each one of us the respect and attention our Beloved mother deserves." Says Ed Asner, an Environmental supporter.

You decide to write an article in the school magazine titled "Save the Planet, Earth". Using ideas from the unit on 'Environment' and your own ideas, write the article in about 200 words.

Ans.

SAVE THE PLANET EARTH

-Abhishek-

Recently, there has been much noise about ecology. This newspapers and magazines are replete with articles that much the loss of the quality of life through the destruction of our ecology. Yet, the fact remains that instead of doing something to save it, almost each of us seems to destroy it a little more. The consumerism of the west has spread in the east also. This consumerism, more than anything else is responsible for destroying the ecology.

Water, air and earth are the three things which together make this plants earth. Each of them is being destroyed. We consume more water per head than the people in history ever did. But what is more important is the fact that we pollute and poison the very source of water that is our rivers and even seas. The inorganic industrial waste which goes in the rivers has made the water unfit for drinking. In the same way the gases emitted by our industries are polluting the air. The earth has been dug for minerals, oil and water to such an extent that it seems to have lost its natural strength. It is being deprived of the forests which make our earth worth living and a beautiful planet.

To save our planet earth, we have to rivers this trend. A simple style of life consuming less of the earth's resources and causing-no pollution is the need of the hour.

C. Geetika read the following news report about the tendency in children to stay from any sort of physical activity. She decided to make use of the information to write an article for her school magazine. Write the article for her in about 150-200 words using ideas from the unit on 'Health and Medicine' and your own ideas.

The teachers and parents have expressed their disappointment about the children of Today being nothing but couch potatoes. Very seldom do you find children outside their Houses, playing their one time favorite outdoor games like Hide and Seek, Cricket etc.

Ans.

COUCHPOTATOES

By Geetika

Every genuine person is today worried about the tendency in the young to stay away from any sort of physical activity. Gone are the days when the children loved to be out of the house in the streets and parks playing and running. Even when they were not playing they used to do other physical labour like walking to school or cycling to a friend's house. It has all changed. Today you can find them sitting in the couch watching television or reading books. Instead of walking they use the bus or some mode of travel to take them to school. Seldom do they think of going to a friend's house to meet him because there is a telephone line on which they talk as long as they please.

However, it is the parents and not the children who are responsible for this very sad state of affairs. They are happy to see their children leading a life of luxury. They do not love physical labor themselves, so how can they make the children love it ?

The school and the parents together can change the situation. Parents should see that the children do some physical exercise or work at home while the schools should make it compulsory for every student to take part in games.

- D. You are Ramesh / Reema, a staff reporter of "The Times of India". Delhi. You witnessed a road accident involving a truck and a Maruti Van in Karol Bagh. Write a report, in not more than 125 words.

Head on Collision

By : Ramesh

New Delhi:25th December. An overloaded truck collided head-on with a Maruti van carrying a family including three children. The accident occurred yesterday at the junction of Karol Bagh at about 6.30 p.m. Both the vehicles were at high speed. This accident occurred when the truck lost its control and crashed into the van coming From the opposite direction. The impact was so great that the van overturned. All the 5 passengers of the car including 3 children were killed on the spot. The cleaner of the truck was injured The driver is absconding. The injured were taken to M.N Hospital. A police case for negligent driving has been registered against the driver of the truck.

Sol.

E.

You witnessed

- a gruesome murder of a young school boy by his two school mates. Write an article for the newspaper.

PARENTS OF BOY WHO SHOT MATE ARE ON THE RUN

By : Suresh jain

gurgaon,12 December 200X

The parents of one of the two children who allegedly shot and killed their classmate were absconding on

Tuesday. Police said. A case has been registered against the father whose gun was used in the murder.

Sol.

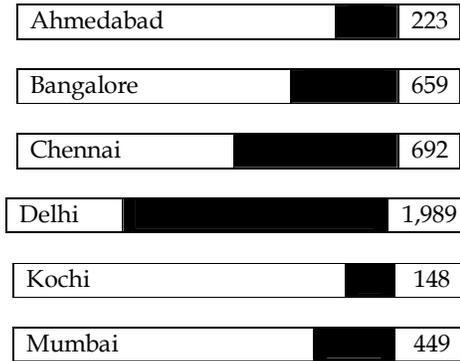
Deputy commissioner of police Satish Balan said action would be taken against the man under the Arms Act for alleged negligence.

His son had brought his licensed revolver to school and allegedly fired four shots at Abhishek Tyagi, 14

Near the staircase and then handed the gun to his friend who fired another bullet. The two accused boys, student of class VIII in Euro international school, have been sent to 14- day judicial custody at Earibad juvenile home.

- F. Sheshadri is a boy who has survived more than 25 major accidents; it makes you wonder about the cause of accidents in the Indian cities. You decide to write an article for the school magazine titled 'Driving India Crazy. Taking ideas from the data below and your own ideas write the article. You are John / Bipasha.

Number of persons killed in cities



Ans.

DRIVING INDIA CRAZY By Bipasha

The news that a boy named Sheshadri has survived more than 25 major accidents, is thought crooking. It clearly shows that our roads have become very dangerous and a mishap might occur even with, one most careful walker.

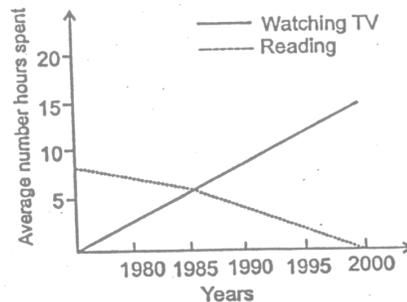
Metropolitan cities are worst hit so far as the deaths by vehicular traffic on the road is concerned. The capitals of the country, unfortunately seem to have become most dangerous. Delhi account for almost as many deaths on the road as the other four metropolitans together. True, one may not be as unlucky as Sheshadri who become the victim of accidents which can make the life of the person a hell.

I have no doubt that the motorists are generally responsible for these accidents. some of them are in a constant hurry. They are tense and their tension results in accidents. In most of the cases of serious accidents the drivers have been found to be drunk. Disobeying the traffic rules has become common. Of course, one can speak of many other reasons too this is the most important one.

I therefore suggest that the traffic rules be observed religiously if we care for our lives.

- G. Given below is a graph. Prepare an article for the school magazine interpreting the data giving your reactions for the benefit of the students. Emphasize the need to promote reading , suggesting suitable measures.

Graph showing time spent on watching TV and on reading . in Indian family



WATCHING TV AND READING BOOKS

Ans .

Our people seem to have been so addicted to the TV screen that they have almost given up reading books. Since most of us think it is the same thing whether we watch a story on the screen or read it in a book. I think it is the time to think of the difference.

Reading enhances our mental ability. While reading we make mental pictures and related them to real life. Moreover, we can look back and again when feel the necessity. It helps in giving us time to understand the subject properly.

In the year 1980, an India family spent only 2 to 3 hours on TV screen whereas almost nine hours were spent on reading. In the year 2000, the same family spent 12 hours before the TV screen and only an hour or two on books. I am afraid this reading must be light such as newspapers etc .serious

reading has suffered a great blow because of the television. Children imitate their parents and other elders. When they do not find them reading, they also lose interest in reading books. Reading books gives food to the mind. So many great men give credit for their achievements to the books but we have yet to hear of a person whom television has inspired to do something great. Hence I think it is utmost importance that we give more attention to reading.

- H. More and more people are now used to carrying mobile phone to their work place. However, the use of mobile phones can be dangerous at times. Write an article on 'Mobile Culture -0 the Ethics' in about 200 words. Take hints from the information given below :

<p>NOW, SWITCH OFF YOUR CELL PHONE AT PETROL STATIONS T.O.I. Correspondent <u>Mumbai, April 22</u> THE GOVERNMENT on Tuesday banned the use of cellular phones at petrol Pumps as they could ignite the flammable vapours present in the air and could Be disastrous. Don't use cell phones..</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• In class room.• In conference hall• While driving• When in a hospital ... I.C.U.• If you are near a heart patient or someone who has pacemaker	
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Ans. Mobile Culture - The Ethics

Modern life is fast moving. It is important to remain connected while on the move. Cell phone is a wonderful gift of science as it has made communication very fast and easy. Now one can easily carry out business transactions, attend to other tasks, SMS for board results and stock prices and umpteen other jobs when land-line is not easily available or busy. Cell phones are sleek and handy and easily fit in one's pocket or handbag too.

But like all other gifts of science, cell phone is being misused, too. It has become a toy in the hands of the people - a means to display their status. Be it a friend's funeral, a place of worship, a busy intersection hospital, a classroom or a conference room, people can't help flaunting their mobile phone and disturb others.

One needs to understand that cell phone is essentially an object of utility or a necessity and not a plaything. The students ought not to carry the cell phone as it is a source of great distraction in the class room. While driving one needs to keep it switched off as it can make the driver lose his or her concentration and prove fatal. At public, it should be kept on the vibration and one must be brief and soft while talking. Its overuse can be hazardous to health. So these ethics had to be observed so as to avoid the misuse of technology.

19.2 SPEECH:

- (i) Sam Douglas, a student of Gloria Public School, Hamirpur (H.P.) has to take part in a speech competition on the topic "Stop Crowding Hamirpur". During the last decade it has grown from a lovely green hill station into a heavily populated industrial town. Using the ideas from the table and the hints given below, ideas from the unit the unit on "Environment" and your own ideas, write Sam's speech in not more than 150-200 words.

HAMIRPUR (1994-2004)

Population (in lakhs)	1994	2004
Population (in lakhs)	15	22
No. of houses (in lakhs)	55	90
No. of factories	15	47
Consumption of water(in gallons)	60,000	1,35,000
Consumption of electricity (in watts)	13,0000	39,000

Sol. STOP CROWDING HAMIRPUR

Good Morning to all I Today, I Sam Douglas of Gloria. Public School will speak on the topic, ' Stop Crowding Hamirpur'. In the last decade, this beautiful green hill station has grown into a heavily populated industrial town. The picturesque surroundings have been replaced by tall chimneys that spew smoke. Our once beautiful and lovely home has been transformed into an ugly habitat!

No doubt, industrialization has led to employment and economic development.

But it has led to an increase in population and a breakdown of the essential civic amenities. From a small town of 15 lakhs having 2 lakh houses with only 55 thousand cars in 1994, today it now has a population of 22 lakh having 04 lakh houses with 90 thousand cars. Number of factories has risen from a meager fifteen to a whopping forty seven. Consumption of water and electricity has risen astronomically.

The pollution level is increasing there is over crowding in streets, buses and markets. Therefore, some urgent and stringent steps to control the situation are need of the hour. The people's health is in real danger.

All factories must be moved at least twenty kilometers outside the town limits. The chimneys should be made very high. Also a green belt of trees must be planted around the industrial area. All of us must unite to make our hill station green and preserve its fresh beauty for the future generations.

Let us take a pledge to : SAVE THE ENVIRONMENT SAVE HAMIRPUR

Thank you and have a nice day.

- (ii) You are Michael, one of the participants for the debate and have to speak for/ against the motion. Write the speech you propose to make.

Notes

25.3.2006

A debate will be organized in the school auditorium on 1st April 2006 at 10 a.m. Teachers And students are requested to attend.

TOPIC : INDIA'S POOR PERFORMANCE IN SYDNEY OLYMPICS

Ashok Mukherjee

Secretary

Debate Society

Ans. Mr. President Sir

I, Michael, would like to share my views on India's performance in Olympic Games.

India's performance in Sydney Olympics is now a forgotten story because we had other Olympics after that. Our performance in the last Olympics has also not given us any sense of pride. It, therefore, does not make me feel very sorrowful for Sydney Olympics except, of course, the common feeling that every past sorrowful incident brings.

At that time, it was considered very shameful that a big country like India had not been able to win any gold or silver medal in those games. Now that we were able to win just one silver medal in the last Olympics, we do not think much of that incident.

In fact what worries me is the fact that the corruption seems to have penetrated in our sports too. Most of us doubt if the selection of the players is fair. then the selected players are not given proper coaching also. It is these things that demand our attention.

There is no shortage of talents and one day we will certainly shine in sports.

Thank you.

- (iii) Shefali has to speak in the morning assembly on the growing number of books prescribed in school these days as the falling rate of literacy. With reference to the cartoon and the unit on Education, write the speech for her.



Don't be angry. The rest of the textbooks are under print.
You will get them when they are available.

Ans. Respected Principal, Teachers and dear friends !

I want to draw your attention to the increasing number of school textbooks prescribed for students. The weight of the school bag is increasing day by day. If all the textbooks of a student are piled up, the height of this stack would exceed the student's own height. Similarly, the pile of books would far exceed the student's own weight.

On the other hand, the rate of literacy is falling. How alarming and pathetic! the fortunate few who can receive good education should not be overburdened with the load of books. Agreed, that there is explosion of knowledge, but our aim should be 'education for all'. We must have a value-based education system. This will impart knowledge, sharpen faculties and mould character. Let us consider schools as nurseries for developing the most valuable human resources-the children, who are the hope of the future.

Thanks

- (iv) You are a member of your school's Social Service League. You have decided to visit a nearby village from your school on a holiday to speak to the villagers how smoking is a silent killer of life, besides being a drain on the limited income of an average income earner. Prepare your speech to address them. Among other point you can also mention, how the vital organs are getting affected due to smoking, how it is harmful even to those who do not smoke but happen to be seen with smokers and how by various methods we should educate people on the dangerous effects of smoking.

Ans. Dear Sisters and Brother it is an honour to have an opportunity of talking to you and sharing my thoughts about smoking with you. It has been a part of my education and I have tried to learn as much as I could about the effects of smoking on human body.

The truth is that smoking is the biggest single factor that causes lung cancer besides many other diseases of heart and chest. It's not only a drain on our limited income but also a silent killer. Yet the most unpleasant part of smoking is the passive smoking. It means that it affects not only the person who smokes but all those who happen to be near him at the time of smoking. It is because of these things that more and more people are giving up smoking in the western world. Unfortunately in our country. The number of smokers is constantly increasing.

I therefore, request you with all humility and with all the emphasis at my command to give up smoking if you are a smoker. Yet that is not enough. You must persuade all those in your village to stop smoking who have not yet done so.

PRACTICE EXERCISE

1. you were a member of the team which represented your school in the Vista Contest and won the team trophy. You have been asked to read out a report about the event in the school assembly. Write the report in about 100-125 words.
2. you have been a witness to an incident of chain-snatching in your locality. Give a short description of the same in 100-125 words.
3. Jacob saw young children engaged in the following activities. He is moved to see the exploitation of children and decides to write an article on the plight of children. Write Thomas' article in not more than 200 words.



4. you are prerna / pranay. You saw the following advertisement in a newspaper. You decide to write an article in your school magazine on how advertisements of such gadgets are harmful to youth. Using ideas from the unit on 'Science' and your own ideas, write the article in about 200 words.

CAMEO has announced the launch of the trendy Cameo 6789 camera phone. With Visual flashing lights the handset is targeted at youth. It also offers features like built in V.G.A. Camera and mobile themes. M. I. d. I. ringing tones with synchronized lights is an Added feature.



PRONOUN



Eng. L. - 20

20.1 PRONOUN:

Pronoun is a word used instead of a Noun.

E .g. Look at Jack. He is studying. John and Mary have come to see him. They are glad to see him studying.

He Is also glad to see them.

The different kinds of Pronouns are as follows

20.1 (a) Personal Pronouns :

They stand for three Persons :

(i) First person :

☒ The pronouns which refer to the person or persons speaking :

E .g. I, we, me, us, mine, ours.

(ii) Second Persons :

☒ The pronouns which refer to the person or persons spoken to.

E .g. you, your, thou, thee

(iii) Third person :

☒ The pronouns which refer to the person or thing spoken of.

E .g. he, she, him, her, hers, they, them, theirs, it.

20.1 (b) Reflexive or Emphatic Pronouns :

E .g. are: myself, ourselves, yourself, yourselves, himself, herself, itself, and themselves.

(i) Reflexive pronoun act as object to the verb but they refer to the same persons as the Subject of the Verbs:

E .g. I blame myself for my failure. We often talk to ourselves.

He hanged himself. They always talk about themselves.

She put herself to trouble for nothing.

(ii) Emphatic Pronouns are used with a Noun or a Pronoun for the sake of emphasis :

E .g. I myself was present at the accident site. You must do the assignment yourself.

She herself cooked food for the guests. Boys, you yourselves should should prepare your timetable.

He himself told me the story.

20.1 (c) Demonstrative Pronouns :

They are used to point out the object for which they are used.

☒ This & These refer to thing near at hand.

☒ That & Those refer to thing lying near at distance.

E .g. This is my book. That is my house. These are your friends. Those are Her friends.

20.1 (d) Distributive Pronoun :

It refer to a number of person or things, one at a time. These pronoun are always singular and are always followed by a verb in the singular.

- ✘ Each, Either, Neither are such pronouns.
E .g. Each student secured a reward. Neither **of your answer is correct.**

At either end of the road was a Park.

20.1 (e) Interrogative Pronoun are used for asking questions.

- ✘ Who, whom and whose are used for asking questions about things.
E .g. Who is calling you? Whom do you want to meet? Whose book is this?
- ✘ What is used for asking questions about thing?
E .g. What shall you do after graduation?
- ✘ Which is used for asking questions about the particular person or thing?
E .g. Which is the most intelligent student in this class?(person)
Which is the best book? (Thing)

20.1 (f) Reciprocal Pronoun:

They are pronouns that denote reciprocal or mutual action. They are :

- ✘ Each other : generally used when two persons or things are referred to.
E .g. Jack and Jill loved each other.
- ✘ One another: generally used when more the two persons or things are referred.
E .g. The people of India love one another.

20.1 (g) Relative Pronoun :

The pronoun 'Who, Whose, Whom, Which, That', which join two sentences and relate or refer to Nouns which have gone before are called Relative Pronouns.

- ✘ The Noun to which a Relative Pronoun refers or relates is called its Antecedent.
E .g. This is the boy who was punished. In this example 'boy' is the Antecedent of 'who'.

20.2 USE OF RELATIVE PRONOUNS :

(i) Who :

- ✘ Used for persons only.
E .g. The man who is honest succeeds in his life.
The student who were lazy were punished.
They who live in glass houses should not throw stones at others.
The children who work hard always succeed.

(ii) Whose :

- ✘ It is the possessive case of 'Who'. It refer to persons but may also refer to things.
E .g. This is the question whose solution baffles me.
The school building whose roof was damaged, has now been repaired.

(iii) Which :

- ✘ Used for animals and for things without life.
E .g. These are the books which we purchased yesterday.
The horse which won the race is John's.
The thing which we lost have been found.

(iv) Whom :

Is used in formal written English. It is common to use 'Who' in place of 'Whom' in Ordinary conversation.

E.g. The man who (m) the police caught was a dreaded terrorist.

The student who (m) we praised were good in their studies.

Note : 'Whom' is often replaced by 'That' except after a preposition. The preposition may be placed at the end and 'that' used for 'whom'.

E.g. That is the man about whom we were speaking.

That is the man that we were speaking about.

(v) That: Used for persons, animals and things.

It may refer to singular or plural.

E.g. These are the boy that can be trusted.

This is the book that I want to buy.

This is the ring that I lost yesterday.

These are the only horses that neigh.

Note: 'That' is preferred to 'who' or 'which' though 'who' or 'which' can be equally Used.

E.g.

a) After the superlative degree of adjectives:

Ashoka was the best king that (=who) ruled in India.

This is the best book that (=which) I have read.

b) After the words 'all, noun, nothing, any, same' etc.

All that (=which) glitters is not gold.

It is only you that (=who) can speak in such a way.

Nothing that (=which) we can do now will save him.

20.3 PRONOUNS AT A GLANCE :

PERSON	Nominative or subjective	Objective	Reflexive	Possessive & Vocative
FIRST	I We	Me Us	Myself Ourselves	My, Mine Our, Ours
SECOND	You	You	Yourself/ Yourselves	Your, yours
THIRD	He She It They	Him her it them	Himself Herself Itself Themselves	His, His Her, Hers Its Their, Theirs

PRACTICE EXERCISE

1. One evening, a rich lady sent (a)_____ housemaid to the market to buy some vegetables for (b) _____ . The rich lady sat by (c) _____ or some time. Then she saw her maid returning very quickly. "Madam" she said, "I have forgotten (d) _____ You had asked me to bring. "The angry lady said, (e)_____ can bear with such a fool? (f) _____was such a simple task and you've come back empty-handed."
2. The following passage has not been edited. There is one error in each line. Write the incorrect word and the correction against the correct blank number. Underline the word that you have supplied.
- We are in very serious times, because they are free. In (a)
 The old days ours task was only to fight, to wrest freedom (b)
 Enthuse each other and carry on the freedom struggle, (c)
 Those was easy, as we know but now that we have freedom (d)
 The entire burden of the future structure of my country is (e)
 On our own shoulders. You must be as true in our conduct (f)
3. The following passage has not been edited. There is one error in each line. Write the incorrect word and the correction against the correct blank number. Underline the word that you have supplied.
- Incorrect Correction
- Jack and Michael were fast friends. They loved one another. (a)
 Every tried to make the greatest sacrifice for (b)
 The other . Their parents were equally friendly. (c)
 But what knows the quirks or fate? It was just a (d)
 Trifle that led to a misunderstanding between their. (e)
 The two boys himself remained friendly as ever (f)
 They tried there best to persuade their fathers. (g)
 An ingenuous trick exposed the man which had created the (h)
 Bad blood. Jack's father was the one to greet his friend. (i)
 The fore stood together and embraced each other . (j)

ANSWERS

1. a. her b. them c. herself d. what
 e. who f. this
2. a. they we b. ours our c. each other one another d. those that
 e. my our f. you we
3. a. one another each other b. Every each c. Others other
 d. what who e. their them f. himself themselves g. there their
 h. which who i. one first j. each other one another



MODALS



Eng. L. -21

Modals are those auxiliary verbs (helping verbs), which express the 'mode' or 'manner' of the actions indicated by the main verb. They express modes such as ability, possibility, permission, obligation etc.

- E.g. We can speak in English. (Ability)
It might rain in the evening. (possibility)
May I go to watch a movie? (permission)
You must do your duty. (obligation)

21.1 USAGE OF MODALS :

✎ A modal does not change according to the number person of the subject.

E.g. We can play. They can play. You can play.

She can play. I can play. Unlike: I go to college.

✎ A modal is always used with a verb in its basic form. The modal takes the Tense while the main verb remain in its dictionary form.

E.g. I can speak. I could speak. I may speak. I might speak.

✎ Modals can be used alone in response to a question.

E.g. Can you speak? I can. Will you speak? I will
Will you dance? I will or I may.

✎ Modals, when joined with 'not' to form a negative, can be contracted.

E.g. I can not sing. I can't sing. I do not sing. I don't sing.
I will not sing. I won't sing

21.2 THE FOLLOWING ARE MODAL AUXILIARIES :

'Shall', 'Should', 'Will', 'Would', 'Can', 'could', 'May', 'might', 'Ought to', 'Need', 'Dare'

A. Shall

✎ Used in 1st person to give information about future action.

E.g. I shall finish this topic by tomorrow

✎ Used in 2nd and 3rd person to express command, threat determination and promise.

- E.g. (i) you shall leave the class at once. (command)
(ii) she shall study regularly and succeed. (Determination)
(iii) If you make a noise, you shall be punished. (Threat)
(iv) He shall get a prize if he succeeds. (Promise)

- ✘ In interrogative sentences, 'shall' is used with 1st person to indicate offer or suggestion and with 3rd person to know the desire of the person spoken to.

- E.g. (i) Shall I make a cup of coffee for you? (Offer)
 (ii) Which book shall I buy? (Asking to suggest)
 (iii) Shall the florist send flowers to your friend? (i.e. do you want it so)

B. Should:

- ✘ Past tense of 'shall' in indirect speech. E.g. I said that I should succeed.
- ✘ To express duty or obligation. E.g. We should obey our parents.
- ✘ To express conditions. E.g. Should this happen, I will resign.
- ✘ To express request. E.g. I should like to inform you about my inability to come.
- ✘ For advice. E.g. you should not tell a lie.

C. Will: used in 2nd person and 3rd person to express certainty.

E.g. You will begin the work tomorrow.

Note: In modern English there is a tendency to use 'will' in all persons to indicate future tense, request, promise, determination, habit and characteristics.

- ✘ To show Future tense E.g. My friend will come tomorrow.
- ✘ To express Request E.g. Will you have coffee?
- ✘ To express Promise E.g. I will take care of your brother.
- ✘ To show determination E.g. They will fight to the finish.
- ✘ To show Habit E.g. She will be talking all the time with no work.
- ✘ To show Characteristics E.g. This machine will work very well and will not Give any trouble.

Imp. Note the force of 'shall' and 'will'.

- (i) The college will remain closed. (=it is possible that college will remain closed). .
- (ii) The college shall remain closed. (=it is promised/ordered that the college will remain closed). .
- (iii) I shall not help you. (=I am not going to help you). .
- (iv) I will help you. (=I am determined not to help you). .

D. Would:

- ✘ Used to indicate Past tense of 'will'. E.g. He said that he would be back soon.
- ✘ To express wish or desire. E.g. I would like to ask you something.
- ✘ To express future in past. E.g. she asked me if I would held her.
- ✘ For requests. E.g. would you please shut the door.
- ✘ To show past habits. E.g. in the past he would go for long walk.

- ☒ To express preference or determination with 'rather' E. Rather die than beg.
I would carry out your orders at all cost.

E. Can:

- ☒ To seek or grant permission. E.g. Can I go out? : You can go now.
- ☒ For possibility. E.g. accidents can happen anytime.
- ☒ To show ability. E.g. he can speak English. They can solve this problem.

Note: 'May' can also be used instead of 'can'. But 'can' is generally used, as it is less formal than 'May'. 'can' indicates a theoretical possibility and 'May' a factual possibility.

F. Could:

- ☒ Used to indicate Past tense of 'can'. E.g. He said that he could solve the problem.
- ☒ To show possibility. E.g. This problem could be solved.
- ☒ For permission. E.g. could I use your cell-phone? :You could come to my my office anytime.
- ☒ To express polite requests. E.g. Could you wait for a minute?
- ☒ For conditional possibility. E.g. if I had the money, I could buy a new house.

G. May :

- ☒ For permission. E.g. May I come in?
- ☒ To show possibility. E.g. the road may be blocked today due to the procession.

Note : it can rain any day. (Theoretical possibility)It may rain today evening as clouds are gathering.(Factual possibility)

- ☒ To show purpose. E.g. we eat so that we may live.
They work hard that they may succeed.
- ☒ To express formal wish. E.g. May God bless you ! May his soul rest in peace.

H. Might :

- ☒ Used to indicate Past tense of 'may'. E.g. he said that he might come.
- ☒ To show possibility. E.g. it might rain. (Less possibility than it may rain).
- ☒ To show purpose. E.g. He worked hard so that he might win.

I. Must:

- ☒ To express obligation or compulsion. E.g. You must be back by 9 p.m.
You must not do it.
- ☒ To show determination. E.g. you must win the first prize.
I must finish this topic by today.
- ☒ To express strong possibility. E.g. there must be some mistake somewhere.

J. Ought (to) :

- ☒ To express moral obligation, duty or desirability.
E.g. you ought to respect your elders.
- ☒ The negative form of 'ought to' is 'ought not to' .
E.g. You ought not to speak to your parents in this manner.

K. Used (to)

(i) Used (to) means 'accustomed to'. It expresses a routine or pattern or habit.

E.g. She is quite used to hard work.

You will soon get used to it.

(ii) It expresses a discontinued habit or a past situation, which contrasts with the present.

E.g. She used to drink milk, now she drink tea.

I was used to use this writing desk in the past, but I don't use it now. It is now being used by my younger brother.

Note: 'Used to' should not be confused with the finite verb 'use'.

(iii) 'Used to' is always used in the past form. It does not have a present tense. The Present tense of 'I used to teach (in kota)'.

L. Need:

☒ 'Need' as a modal auxiliary means 'be obliged' or 'be necessary'. It is followed by infinitives without 'to'. 'Need' can be Used with do/did when it is followed by an infinitive with 'to'

E.g. Need I tell him to study?(is it necessary for me to tell him to go?)

He need not go. (it is not necessary for him to go)

I need hardly to tell you. (You must already know)

Does she need to go so soon?(is it necessary for her to go so soon?)

☒ To express necessary.

E.g. the students need to study regularly.

All of you need to be punctual.

The house needs (requires) repairs.

M. Dare

☒ 'Dare' as a modal auxiliary means 'be bold enough to'. It is commonly used in interrogative and Negative sentences. It can also be used with do / did.

E.g. How dare you fight with me ?

He does not dare (to) fight with me.

Does he dare (to) fight with me ?

☒ To express courage.

E.g. Don't dare to touch my book.

N. Do/Does :

☒ To emphasize a statement.

E.g. I do need your help.

She does sing well

☒ To express request in persuasive way.

E.g. Please do come to my party. I'll wait for you.

O. Have :

☒ When 'Have' (as a main verb) means 'possess' it is used without the auxiliary 'Do' to From question or negatives in British usage. In American usage 'Do' is commonly used.

Have you a pen? (British usage)

Do you have a pen? (American usage)

☞ When 'Have' (as a main verb) is used in the sense of take, receive, obtain, Experience etc. 'Do' is used to form questions or negatives (both in British and American usage)

E.g. Do you have (take) tea or milk for breakfast?
Did you have (experience) much difficulty in reaching here?

20.3 MODALS AT A GLANCE :

Modal	Usage
* Can	: Ability, Permission, Request, Possibility
* Could	: Ability, Request, Possibility,
* Shall	: Futurity, Willingness, Suggestion, Insistence.
* Should	: Obligation, Advisability, Necessity
* Will	: Willingness, Prediction, Insistence, Requests In Questions.
* Would	: Willingness, Habitual Action In Past, Probability
* May	: Wish Purpose, Permission, Possibility
* Might	: Possibility, Permission, Concession
* Must	: Compulsion, Obligation, Prohibition

PRACTICE EXERCISE

1. Fill in the blank with 'Should' or 'Would', 'May' or 'Might', 'Can' or 'Could' or 'Ought'.

- (i) Children _____ obey their teachers.
- (ii) He said that he _____ not come for the party.
- (iii) We _____ to honour our parents.
- (iv) James _____ swim across the river when he was young.
- (v) They _____ come any moment.
- (vi) I _____ very much like to see my old school again
- (vii) "you _____ try once again".
- (viii) "I _____ do it," said the student.
- (ix) The student said that he _____ do it.
- (x) He _____ lift that heavy box.

2. Fill in the blank with 'Shall' or 'Will'.

- (i) _____ I make a cup of coffee for you ?
- (ii) _____ you please open the door ?
- (iii) They _____ be talking all the time without doing anything.
- (iv) You _____ not harass your friends.
- (v) You _____ get a prize if you do not make a mistake.

3. Fill in the blank with appropriate modals.

Shopkeeper: (i) _____ I help you?

Customer: Yes, (ii) _____ you show me Tee shirts, XX-L please ?

Shopkeeper: Allright, Sir, I (iii) _____ show you several designs and with different shades.

Customer: That (IV) _____ be the one Thomas told me about (v) _____ you please tell me its price?

Shopkeeper; It costs only Rs. 599/-

Customer; OK. I (VI) _____ take two of them. The blue one and the white one.

Shopkeeper; OK I Sir.

4. The following passage has not been edited. There is one error in each of the lines. Write the incorrect word and the correction in your answer sheet as given below against the correct blank number. Remember to underline the word that you have supplied.

- (a) You could regularly study if you wish to
- (b) Do well in the exams. It may not be possible
To score marks if you do not have a
- (c) Systematic approach. One might study
For at least 3-4 hours everyday especially
- (d) If you're in a senior class. You will
Not spend so many hours if you're in a
Junior class, but students of class IX upward
- (e) Has to work more.
- (f) This will be done by planning one's daily routine.

ANSWERS

- 1. (I) may (ii) will (iii) can (iv) might
(v) Could (VI) will
- 2. (i) Shall (ii) will (iii) will (iv) shall
(v) Shall
- 3. (i) should (ii) might (iii) ought to (iv) could
(v) May (VI) would (viii) may (ix) can

	Incorrect	correct
(a) You <u>could</u> regularly study if you wish to	(a) could	<u>should</u>
(b) Do well in the exams. It <u>may</u> not be possible To score marks if you do not have a	(b) may	<u>will</u>
(c) Systematic approach. One <u>might</u> study For at least 3-4 hours everyday especially	(c) might	<u>should</u>
(d) If you're in a senior class. You <u>will</u> Not spend so many house if you're in a Junior class, but students of class IX upward	(d) will	<u>need</u>
(e) <u>Has</u> to work more.	(e) has	<u>have</u>
(f) This <u>will</u> be done by planning one's daily routine.	(f) will	<u>can</u>



THE NECKLACE



Eng. L. - 22

22.1 SUMMARY

The story 'The Necklace' is about a common human weakness the desire to win fame. The ambition to rise higher and look more glamorous can lead to one's downfall. Madame Loisel was pretty and charming but was unhappy as she was married to a clerk and couldn't afford the luxuries of life. One day her husband got an invitation to a ball from the office of the Minister of Public instruction. Instead of feeling happy, she looked distressed as had no proper gown for the occasion. Mr. Loisel reluctantly cut short on his personal expenses and bought her a nice gown. But she was still not happy as she had no matching jewellery. At her husband's suggestion, she borrowed a diamond necklace from her friend, Madame Forestier. She was a great success at the ball. However, her joy and excitement was short-lived as on returning home she discovered that the necklace was lost. Then began the nightmarish phases of their lives. In order to pay off the debts they had incurred for buying a replica of the necklace, they had to live life like paupers. Madame Loisel's beauty was lost. She had to pay a very heavy price for her folly. The irony of it all was that years after her hard struggle. She accidentally met her friend and discovered that the diamond necklace for which they had to pay thirty-six thousand francs was fake and cost only about some five hundred franc. The story has an element of pathos and sadness. One experiences a sense of loss and feels touched by the helplessness and pathetic condition of the Loisels.

22.2 SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS:

(i) HOW WAS Mathilde Loisel 'a slip of fate'?

Ans. Mathilde Loisel was very pretty and charming. She appeared to be a lady of high family. But she was born in a poor family. She had no dowry and hence she had to marry a petty clerk. She wanted to enjoy the luxuries of life, but now she had to lead an ordinary life. Thus she was a mistake of destiny - a slip of fate.

(ii) What all did the Loisels had to cut down on to buy the new necklace?

Ans. The Loisels moved into a garret under the roof and dismissed their servants. Madame Loisel was forced to do heavy housework and odious chores of the kitchen. She wore cheap clothes and bargained with the grocer, butcher and full-sellers. Her husband worked at making up tradesman's accounts each evening and working late at night, copied manuscripts at five sous a page.

(iii) What suggestions did Mr. Loisel make when Mathilde Loisel asked for jewellery?

Ans. At first, he said that she could wear flowers. Natural flowers were quite fashionable at that time of the year. They could get two or three magnificent roses for ten francs. Mathilde was not convinced. She did not want to look poverty-stricken among rich ladies. Then he said that she could go to her friend Madam Forestier and borrow some jewels. She would certainly lend her some jewellery. She shouted with joy at this suggestion.

(iv) Describe how 'the Necklace' has a twist in the end?

Ans. The Loiseles bought a diamond necklace for thirty-six thousand francs and gave it to Madame Forestier. They did manual jobs for ten years to repay their heavy burden. Mme Loisel felt proud that they had repaid everything. She was shocked to learn that Madame Forestier's necklace was false and cheap. Mathilde could repent only. But her repentance could neither bring back the ten years lost in hard labor nor recover her loss of thirty six thousand francs.

(v) 'All was ended for her' ---

(i) Who does 'her' refer to ?

(ii) What were the things that ended for her ?

(iii) What were the changes that took place in her life ?

Ans. (i) 'Her' refers to Madame Loisel.

(ii) Both the enjoyment of the ball and the way of life changed for her. She had to now live a life of extreme poverty.

(iii) The Loiseles had to change houses - shifting to a cheaper house. Mathilde had to do all the housework herself; the hard work aged her before her time. Her husband Monsieur Loisel had to work overtime to repay their debts.

(vi) 'My necklace was paste I' - Bring out the irony of Madame Forestier's remark.

Ans. The irony of Madame Forestier's remark was that her necklace was a fake but the Loiseles replaced it with a real diamond necklace of which their lives were completely ruined, the tragedy was that they hadn't shared the truth with Madame Forestier. They bore the sufferings with dignity and lived like paupers in order to pay off the huge debt they had incurred in buying the real necklace. The tragedy was that if they had shared the truth with Madame Forestier, all their misery could have been saved.

22.3 Long Answer Type Questions :

(i) Imagine you are Madame Loisel. Write a diary entry expressing your feelings on realizing that the ten years of hard work and pain had been completely unnecessary and could have been avoided.

Ans. 19th December. 10.00 p.m. Wednesday.

I had curbed my vanity and hunger for admiration from men folk. But who does not want to be praised ? it is a universal weakness of the fair sex. Secondly, I stood on a false point of honor or you may call it, an inflated ego that checked me from revealing the true facts to my friend, Madame Forestier. I think if I had made a clean breast of everything, admitted the loss, pleaded guilty of losing her necklace and asked time for replacing it, she might have disclosed the truth then. The four words 'my necklace was paste' now sounded as the blow of hammer on my temples. These very words would have sounded as the sweet music of a violin then. One moment of wrong decision, the foolishness to hide the facts, Madame Forestier's not looking at the replacement - all conspired in one direction - hard work and pain. How rich, ecstatic and enjoyable life would have been if I had not committed that one error. Now I can think and repent, but that is not going to bring back my youth, beauty, joy. Let bygones be bygones. Perhaps destiny willed it so. Thank God it's all over.

(ii) Madame Forestier is shocked to learn about Madame Loiseles sacrifice. She decided to return the necklace. She writes about her friend's sacrifice. Write the diary entry.

Ans. 20th December. 9.00 p.m. Thursday

Dear diary

I can just not get over the meeting with Mathilde ! was shocked to see her pathetic. And all because of me I Oh, why didn't she tell me about the necklace when she came to return it to me? Imagine living such a hellish life for ten years ! My respect for Mathilde has gone up. I wonder whether I would have done the same thing had I been in her place. I think not I am too used to my comforts. I must say Mathilde's husband is a gem of a person to have supported her in such a way. Imagine slogging away after hours to prepay the debts. He must really have Mathilde a lot to have given her all the savings he had to pay for the wretched necklace. And to think I did not even know its true worth. All this, while I have thought it was just paste in fact the other day I even let my little child to play with it !

No, I don't think it belongs to me. I am going return it to Mathilde. It now belongs to her, I hope she accepts it. I will not find any peace until I return it !

(iii) Suppose you are Madame Loisel. Make a diary entry writing down your own sorrow and grief after you discovered that the diamond necklace was fake. Write your answer in not more than 150-175 words.

Ans. Tuesday, 29th September, 200X

9.00 p.m.

What a waste of ten years I my beauty, my youth all gone I all this could have been avoided if only! Had not fallen into temptation. My discontent and lure for glamour has ruined my life. I made Loisel also suffer. He had to pay a heavy price for his love for me. I was always dissatisfied with our meager income. But for the folly I committed, I had to waste all my life doing menial jobs to pay off the debts. We spent all our lives slogging like slaves, trying to save every sou to pay for the diamond necklace – only to discover that it was fake. How cruel could destiny be with us ? I think my punishment is well deserved – when you aspire for more than you land up where the clock cannot be turned back. All I can do is to be a good wife to Loisel now onwards any try to live with contentment and peace. But, is it possible?

(iv) "Don't aspire for more than you have, it will ruin you". Does this seem to be the message of the story. Explain

Ans. Mathilde, aspired for success wealth & glory by rising above the mundaneness of her ordinary married life and finally brought herself to grief and destruction. It is her discontent and desire to show off which made her borrow the diamond necklace from Madame Forestier. She was glamour struck. That's why she couldn't sense the hollowness and artificiality beneath the material glitter. She was an instant success at the ball. Her beauty, grace and dignity captured every one's eye. She was intoxicated with joy. But soon as she returned home to utter dismay and shock, she discovered that the diamond necklace was lost on the way. Desperately, she and her husband made futile attempts to search for the necklace. Thinking the necklace to be real the Loisels had to borrow eight thousand Francs to replace it. This brought them to complete ruin. Mathilde worked like a domestic maid all her life to pay off the loan. Her over. Her over ambition and false aspirations caused distress and suffering to her all life.

(v) "How strange and changeable is life ! How small a thing is needed to make or ruin us!" Says Mathilde to herself as she reflects on the change in her life after the loss of the Necklace. She confides to her friend, Suzie, what would have happened if she had not lost that necklace. Suppose you are Mathilde Loisel Write the letter.

Ans. 169-E Cedar Avenue

Paris

28th September 200X

Dear Sue

You may think it unfair of me to burden you with my tale of sorrows and misfortunes, but under the circumstances I have no happy tidings to share with you. Sometimes I wish that I had not lost the necklace. Than life would have been entirely different. Mr. Loisel had eighteen thousand francs which his father had left him. I could have taken up a minor but respectable assignment in some respectable firm to augment the family resources. We might have acquired the flat whose first instalment we had already paid. I could then go to fashionable parties and gatherings of notable persons and enjoy their company and compliments instead of being forced to live in improveished conditions in a garret. I still look prematurely old, with a hard face, red hands and rough hair. Gone are the sweet manners and polite words. Now I haggle with the petty shopkeepers to save a sue. Sometimes their impertinence crosses limits and I have no option but to curse myself. How I wish fate had not conspired against me and hit me hard at the supreme moment of triumph and bliss !

But for this unexpected turn of events life would have been still enjoyable inspite of being bereft of affluence. Now I am living as a poor domestic woman forced to undertake the unpleasant chores of routine life, like cleaning the greasy post and pans, washing dirty dishes, clothes and floor etc. I think how careful I was of my figure and personal appearance and would have been as pretty as you, if not prettier.

You can will judge my predicament. I have to write to you and dare not visit you for I am ashamed of my shabby clothes and unbecoming appearance. I would have been an active member of the club if - if the unfortunate occurrence had not occurred.

Yours sincerely

Mathilde

PRACTICE EXERCISE

1. You are MADAME Forestier. Write a letter to you friend, Jane Andrews expressing your shock and surprise at the way the Loisels suffered on account of your necklace.
2. Imagine that Mathilde is unhappy with her marriage. She writes a letter to her dearest friend, Rossie, how unwillingly she married Mr. Loisel. Write this letter on her behalf.



THE PENDULUM



Eng. L. - 23

23.1 SUMMARY:

"The Pendulum" is the story of a couple who lived in Frogmore flats. John Perkins, who commuted to work by train, got out at the eighty-first street station in Manhattan and walked slowly towards his flat. As he walked home he was bored for he knew exactly how he was going to pass his evening. He had been married to Katy for two years. Their life had settled into a definite routine and moved in a definite rut. It never changed. His wife would greet him with a kiss at the door, she would smell of cream and butter-scotch. Then he would take off his coat and settle down to read the newspaper. For dinner he would get pot roast, a salad with sauce, stewed rhubarb, and strawberry marmalade.

At half-past seven, a man in the flat overhead would start vigorous physical exercises. They would spread newspaper over the furniture to catch pieces of falling plaster. Exactly at eight, Hickey-Money of the vaudeville in the flat across the hall would very excitedly begin to overturn the chairs. Then a gentleman across the airshaft would begin to play his flute. At quarter past eight, John would take courage and reach for his hat, read to leave for a game or two of pool at McCloskey's. His wife would ask complainingly where he was going. He would return at ten or eleven and find Katy asleep or waiting or waiting to have a fight with him. This had been going on for the past two years and he did not expect any change in that routine. One night when John Perkins reached his flat, there was a great change. The situation was totally different. Katy was not there at the door to greet him with her affectionate kiss; the three rooms were in disorder with things lying scattered here and there. Shoes lay in the middle of the floor. Tongs, hair-brows, comb, powder box, red apron etc. also lay jumbled together on the dresser and the chair. The things revealed that there had occurred some unusual hurry as Katy always put things where they belonged. John Perkins found a note which read that she had received a telegram that her mother was very sick, so she had taken the 4.30 train and gone to see her.

It was the first time that Perkins and Katy had been separated since their marriage and Perkins felt orphaned. Katy's things lay scattered here and there. Everything in the room spoke of a loss, of an essence gone, of the soul and life departed. He stood there with a strange sense of desolation. He had never thought what life would be without Katy. Then he took the cold mutton out of the ice box and had a lonely meal. He felt tempted to go out. The night was his. He would enjoy his bachelorhood as best as he could. Now there was no fear of Katy.

While perking like this, he realized that Katy was essential to his happiness. Now he felt guilty for having treated Katy the way he had. He was sorry that he was playing pool with his friends while Katy suffered from loneliness at home and nothing to amuse her. He realized how hard she had been working for his happiness. He was filled with remorse and resolved to make up for his neglect. He would take Katy out and let her see some amusement when she came back. He wouldn't go to McCloskey's from that evening.

Just then the door opened and Katy walked in. John Perkins stared at her stupidity. Katy told him that her mother was not seriously ill. She had taken ill for a short spell and got well soon. So she took the next train back and now she was glad at home.

Katy got busy to set everything in place and soon everything was in proper order. John Perkins looked at the clock. It was 8.15. he reached for his hat and walked to the door. Katy was angry as usual and asked him where he was going. Perkins replied that he would drop into McCloskey's to play pool with his fellows.

23.2 SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS:

(i) Comment on the opening of the story. What does the comparison reveal?

Ans. The story begins in a very interesting manner. The train conductor in his blue uniform is called a shepherd in blue. The commuters are called 'a flock of citizen sheep'. The passengers who got down are called 'the released flock'. They scramble out and scrambled abroad.

(ii) 'To-night John Perkins encountered a tremendous upheaval of the common place when he reached his door'. What upheaval was Perkins faced with? What was responsible for this extraordinary occurrence?

Ans. When Perkins returned home, he didn't find Katy, his wife. Also the room was in a mess. Katy had gone to visit her mother who was sick. She had left her a note behind for Perkins with some instructions. Katy's things were lying all over the room in disorder. For Perkins it was unusual and unexpected.

(iii) John Perkins looked at the clock. It was 8.15: why is the time significant?

Ans. The time 8.15 is very significant. John Perkins is quite punctual in his life and work. He is leading a monotonous, dull life. His effort to add a little pleasure to it has also become mechanical. He used to go to McCloskey every evening at the same time. He thinks about his routine after looking at the watch. Thus it shows that he was a person with an unstable mind who couldn't stick to his resolutions even for a day.

(iv) What resolutions does Perkins make while tidying up his room? Does he stick to these resolutions?

Ans. As he tidied the room, he felt guilty for having treated Katy the way he had. He was sorry that he was playing pool with his friends while Katy suffered from loneliness at home with nothing to amuse her. He was filled with remorse and resolved to make up for his neglect. He decided to change himself and be punctual in returning home in future when his wife eventually returned. He would make up for all his neglect. He would take Katy out and let her see some amusement when she came back. He wouldn't go to McCloskey's from that evening. But as soon as Katy arrived in, Perkins relapsed to his former behavior. He picks up his hat and walks to the door; ready for McCloskey's to play a game of pool with his fellows.

(v) What is the greatest instance of irony in this lesson?

Ans. The greatest irony is that John could have enjoyed himself in his wife's absence without having to face her anger yet he chose to stay back and mourn her going away. And when she returned he picked up his hat and left, forgetting all his good resolution and intentions.

(vi) The relationship between the man and his wife has been described as being "like the air he breathed necessary, but scarcely noticed". What is the literary device used here? How does the device drive home the meaning forcefully?

Ans. The author has used 'Simile' to drive home the meaning forcefully. John Perkins realized Katy's role in his life only when she was away. She had become an intrinsic part of his life - fused and woven into the pattern or incorporated intrinsically. Now she had vanished as if she had never existed. He realized the keynote of his discomfort as he sat in parlour without Katy. His feeling for her had been lulled into unconsciousness by the dull round of domesticity. It was the loss of her presence

that sharply stirred the feeling that she was necessary to his happiness. The comparison makes the meaning cleverer.

23.3 LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS:

(i) Describe the character sketch of Katy on the basis of your reading of the story, "The Pendulum"

Ans. Katy was a simple lady who was completely devoted to her husband and home. Though loving and caring, she did not fully appreciate her husband John Perkins' interests and likings. Like traditional housewives who in the satiety of their married life grow complacent and indifferent to looks and lifestyle, Katy, too, never made any special efforts to please Perkins through winsome manners or any other charming womanly ways. Perkins resented the 'butter-scotch flavored' kiss that she showered upon him every evening on his return home. He hardly ever found the dinner tempting or inviting. Bored with the monotony of his routine, he would leave for a game of pool at McCloskey's at 8.15 every evening. She would question him about in a querulous tone as she felt neglected and lonely but wouldn't be able to express her needs and feelings softly to him. However, she was a loyal wife and was fully sensitive to the fact that with the constraints and hardness of his daily routine, Perkins wouldn't be able to manage the household chores without her. Therefore, she returned home the same day as soon as she got the news that her mother's condition was stable. Only a little more concern for each other's tastes and needs would have filled their with charm and sweetness.

(ii) Justify the title, "The Pendulum"

OR

Why has the lesson been called 'The Pendulum'? What are the features common to a pendulum and the main character of the story – Mr. John Perkins. Given character sketch of Mr. John Perkins.

Ans. It has been so called because the main character of the story, John Perkins, is a person who is fickle-minded and one changes his stand very easily. Just like a pendulum that never stays in one place this man changes his mind depending on the situation. For instance in the story we see that when his wife goes away to visit her sick mother he is so shaken that he realizes that he had been neglecting her by going out every evening. In the process annoying her. He decides to make amends and pay more attention to her. Yet the moment she returns, he forgets all his good intention and leaves the house to spend the evening playing pool with his friends as usual.

(iii) Write a diary entry on behalf of Katy after she returned from her mother's house.

Ans. 12th July 200X

Wednesday, 8.30 p.m.

What a day! It started off with mother's urgent telegram. It frightened the daylight out of me. It also left me thoroughly confused because I did not even have the opportunity of consulting John who was at work, it was the first time that I was going out of the house without his knowledge or without him. I was hoping it wasn't her quinsy again because that would have meant a lot of care and hence a longer absence from home. But thank God she recovered sooner than I expected. So I took the next train back home.

I had expected a cup of coffee on returning home. Of course that was wishful thinking because the moment I returned John picked up his hat and went out to meet his friends as usual. Really, the man has lost all the feelings he once had for me. He did not even miss me. His face was as emotionless as usual. He hardly spends time with me these days. He doesn't even take me anywhere. I really wonder why I love him so much and take care of all his needs. He really upsets me so much at times.

(iv) Katy and John visit the Marriage Counselor who gives them some advice. Write out the advice given by the counselor.

Ans. Well, Mr. and Mrs. Perkins, I have been listening to your problems. I would like to point out that you are not the first couple to face problems so please don't lose heart. Even the best of marriages have to face ups and downs. It is all a matter of adjusting to one another's needs. However I have some suggestions for both of you which I'm sure will not require much effort.

Firstly, Mr. Perkins you will have to stop going out every night. You must realize that as a married man you have some responsibilities towards your wife. You must make it a point to take your wife out more often and buy her small gifts to make her feel loved and appreciated. You should spend more time with her at home also and help her with the household chores. A cup of coffee prepared for her once in a while will work wonders for your marriage. You have to be more caring and loving towards Katy.

As for you Mrs. Perkins, you cannot look untidy all the time. You should also keep the house spic and span. Also please change the cream you use since it irritates your husband so much.

I am quite sure that if you follow my suggestions you will once again discover the love that you once felt for one another.

(v) Imagine you are John Perkins. Make a diary entry recording how much you felt when Katy left home. Also mention the resolution you made to make her happy.

Ans. Wednesday

12th July 200X

7.30 p.m.

Today I realized what place Katy holds in my life. I have always taken her for granted.. after coming home, I find everything so desolate. Without her the room seems to have lost its soul. How efficiently she runs the house. Everything is in apple-pie order when she is present. Every evening she waits eagerly for my arrival. But how ungrateful creature I am I don't relish even the dinner she prepares so painstakingly for me. I care for my amusement only. I never take her out. Rather much to her annoyance, I leave her alone and go out to play at McCloskey's. I have realized my brutish behavior. I have neglected her. Now I'll be more caring and loving towards her. I'll take her out and make her happy as I can. I'll stop going to McCloskey's and spend the evening with her. I'll help her in her household chores. I have realized that she is the essence of my life. I really miss her a lot. It is never too late to mend and make amends. I'll start a new beginning. When she returns back, she'll find me a different person—loving, sharing and caring.

PRACTICE EXERCISE

1. Imagine you are Katy. Your elder sister has asked you how you have been passing your married life with John Perkins. Write a letter to your sister relating your feelings, aspirations and failures.
2. A friend of Perkins comes to know that Perkins does not have very good relations with his wife Katy and he spends most of his time away from home. He has written a letter to Perkins. Write a reply to that letter.



MIRABAI



ENG. L. - 24

24.1 SUMMARY:

This drama is about Mirabai's love for Krishna & is legendary in Indian history. An ardent devotee of Lord Krishna, she sacrificed her worldly life for her love for him. In fact, she regarded him as her spiritual husband since childhood, though she was married to Bhojraj, the son of Rana Sanga of Mewar. The play deals with Mirabai's relationship with her husband and her mother-in-law. As the wife of Bhojraj, she was supposed to live according to the standards of the royal family.

Bhojraj and Rani, Rana Sanga's wife, have come to complain to the Rana about Mirabai's behaviour. Bhojraj is unhappy with his newly-wed as she gives more time to worship and prayer and shirks her duties towards him. The Rana is angry at this situation and Rani, who is jealous of Mirabai's beauty and her importance in her son's life, adds fuel to the fire. Jaimall, Mirabai's cousin, pleads for Mirabai but the Rani resents it and turns him out of the family discussion. Another fact that aggravates the Rana's wrath is Mirabai's devotion for Lord Krishna. She says that even on her wedding day Mirabai had brought shame to the royal house of Mewar as she had walked three times round the image of Lord Krishna.

She insists that Mirabai worship Durga, the family deity. Mirabai is called for and Rana expresses his unhappiness over the unfortunate situation in the palace and insists that she worship Durga instead of Krishna. Mirabai tells the Rana that it would mean death to her if she did not worship Lord Krishna.

But the Rana turns a deaf ear to all her pleadings. He advises her to mix with the women of the palace, play with children, and even offers to buy her some jewellery if she stops worshipping Krishna and dismisses her from his presence. Before she leaves the room, Mirabai informs the Rana that she would give up her life rather than give up her worship of her beloved Lord Krishna.

Mirabai's nurse, and her companion Sanjogta, feel that the atmosphere in the palace is 'heavy' and ominous. They feel that the Rani was upto some mischief as she hates Mirabai. Mirabai has no friends in the palace and so Sanjogta prepares food for her, herself. The nurse, feeling that Mirabai's faith is responsible for her misfortune, advises Mirabai to pretend that she has forsaken Krishna. Mirabai refuses to do so. Then, a maid from the Rani enters, pretending to have a message to deliver. She has, in fact, come to spy on Mirabai. It is the Rani's trick to test Mirabai. Later Chamamrit is sent to her by the Rana and she is asked to drink it. In spite of the nurse's warning and Sanjogta cry, Mirabai insists that she would meet her death with courage. Chanting a song with mystic fervour in honour of Lord Krishna, Mirabai holds the cup in her hand and drinks the Chamamrit

24.2 TEXTUAL COMPREHENSION :

Read the following extracts and answer the questions that follow :

1. 'If I'd defied my husband's mother, I should have felt her hand heavy upon me, though my blood was seven times royal. But I was docile and sought to please, often I wept myself to sleep.'
 - (i) Who is 'I' here ? What makes her say the above lines ?

- (ii) Who is 'her' in the second line ? what would she have done to the speaker in case she defied her ?
- (iii) What quality of Mirabai is the speaker trying to emphasize ?

Ans. (i) 'I' here is the Rani. She is complaining to the Rana about Mirabai's behaviour. She says that she had always been docile and obedient to her mother-in-law's wishes whereas Mirabai flouts her authority openly.

(ii) 'her' in the second line is the Rani's mother-in-law. Rana Sanga's mother. In case the Rani defied her she would hit the Rani.

(iii) She is trying to imply that Mirabai may appear to be gentle and simple but she is obstinate.

2. 'Have you forgotten how on her very wedding day she walked three times around it, as if she were devoted to the service of the temple ? it was shocking; my very ears burned hot with sham.'

- (i) Who is speaker ?
- (ii) What was shocking for the speaker ?
- (iii) Why was it shocking for her ?
- (iv) Why did Mirabai walk around the idol ?

Ans. (i) The Rani is the speaker.

(ii) Mirabai walking thrice around the deity of Lord Krishna on her wedding day.

(iii) She thought that Mirabai's action had brought disgrace to the family honour because it almost seemed as if she was marrying the idol.

(iv) Mirabai was devoted to Lord Krishna. Even as a child she loved the idol, instead Of toys like other children.

3. 'Rana Sanga (taken aback) : What, by your own hand?'

- (i) Why was the Rana taken aback ?
- (ii) What was Mirabai's reply to the above lines?
- (iii) What trait of Mirabai's character is seen in this lines?

Ans . (i) When Rana Sanga tells Mirabai to put away the idol of lord Krishna and to pray to Durga. The family deity of Mewar. Mirabai replies that she would die if she gave up worshipping lord Krishna. This reply shock Rana Sanga and he exclaims in shock and horror whether she intends committing suicide.

(ii) Mirabai replied that she would not commit suicide but if she was made to give up her worship of Krishna, she would die of grief.

(iii) Mirabai's reply shows her strong faith and devotion to Krishna and her firm determination to carry on worshipping him in spite of all odds.

4. 'Only royalty may support the burden of royalty.'

- (i) Who speaks this line and to whom?
- (ii) What is the occasion or context?
- (iii) What two qualities of Mirabai are reflected in this line?

Ans. (i) Mirabai speaks to Sanjogta.

(ii) The Rana had sent a cup of Chamamrit for Mirabai's companion and her nurse suspected that it contained poison, so Sanjogta insists that she would drink it instead.

(iii) Mirabai's fearlessness and her willingness to carry out her duty even if it meant embracing death Her firmness of purpose. She is willing to die rather than give up her faith.

5. 'Her sweet blood is so pure that Death, who lurked inside the cup, has shun away ashamed.'

(i) Who speaks these lines and about whom?

(ii) What has happened to death?

(iii) What quality of Mirabai is revealed by her drinking the Charnamrit?

Ans. (i) The nurse speaks these about Mirabai.

(ii) Death here refer to the poison present in the Charnamrit. Which Mirabai was to drink.

According to her maid. the poison had failed to effect Mirabai because of her pure heart.

(iii) Her faith and devotion to Lord Krishna even in the face of death and her fearlessness.

6. hush ! your mother slipped, that's all, when saying, 'See thy bridegroom'.

(i) Who speaks these lines and to whom?

(ii) What light dose this speech throw on the character of the person who is addressed?

(iii) What are the consequences of the 'slip' in speech?

Ans. (i) The nurse speaks these lines to Mirabai.

(ii) Mirabai is a devotee of Lord Krishna. When she was a child of six her mother dedicated her to Lord Krishna She referred to him as her "bridegroom" then.

(iii) In her father-in-law's house, Mira has to pay for worshipping Lord Krishna. The Rana Sends her a cup of poison. Mirabai willingly drinks this poisoned charnamrit but does not die.

7. Her parents are to blame, giving her images when most children would have been at play.

(i) Who is speaking the above lines ? About whom is he speaking ?

(ii) What was the alleged fault of the parents blamed by the speaker? Was is really a fault. Give reason.

(iii) Why does the speaker consider it a fault to be condemned? How would you justify him?

Ans. (i) Rana Sanga is speaking the above lines about Mirabai and her parents.

(ii) The alleged fault of the parents to earn blame was to give her the images of Lord Krishna At very early age. This made her devoted to the Lord but detached her from worldly matters. Really it was not a fault. Devotion was God given gift to her.

(iii) The speaker is worried about his son's wedded life. Being devoted to Lord Krishna, Mirabai does not take any interest in her husband and other worldly affairs. This is a Matter of concern for the Rana. So he justifiably considers it to be a fault.

8. His birth excuses pride. He is the bravest of the brave race of Mar war; his place is on my right hand. Also, the boy is loyal, the first of the swords of Maru.

(i) Who speaks these lines and to whom?

- (ii) Who is the boy? What has happened to him ?
- (iii) What two qualities of his character are mentioned here ?

Ans. Rana Sanga speaks these lines to the Rani.

- (i) Who speaks these lines to the Rani.
- (ii) 'The boy' is Jaimall. He has been turned out disgracefully from the family conversation of Rana Sanga.
- (iii) He is brave and loyal.

9. You are beside yourself. Leave me, but let me here no more of this defiance. My mind is heavy with the affairs of state. I need no other source of sorrow.

- (i) Who speaks these lines and to whom?
- (ii) What do you learn about the speaker's mood from these lines?
- (iii) What two pieces of advice are offered by the speaker?

Ans. (i) Rana Sanga speaks these lines to Mirabai.

- (ii) Rana Sanga, the speaker is upset because of Mirabai. He is already burdened with the worries of the state. He does not want to hear of any disobedience by Mirabai.
- (iii) The two main pieces of advice offered by Rana Sanga to Mirabai are :
 - (i) Being a Rajputni, she should put away the sickly habit and
 - (ii) She should bear sons who might defend Chittor against its enemies.

10. Our destinies have been written long ago. Our going forth or turning back is of such small account in that great sum set by the gods of which the answer is hidden from us.

- (i) Who speaks these lines and to whom? What makes the speaker say so?
- (ii) What do these lines imply indirectly about the speaker's nature and outlook?
- (iii) Does the listener understand the import of such a statement? What does she say about it ?

Ans. (i) Mirabai speaks these lines to the nurse in response to the remarks made by the nurse earlier when she cursed the day the two had set out for Mewar.

- (ii) These lines imply that the speaker is religious by nature and has full faith in the dispensation of God.
- (iii) The listener i. e. the nurse, does not understand the import of such a statement. She simply says that understanding such ideas is beyond her age.

11. I paid in full, weighed to the utmost grain, My love, my life, my self soul , my all.'

- (i) Who speaks these lines and on what occasion?
- (ii) What is paid in full?
- (iii) Who is my love, my life, my soul , my all'? Why?

Ans. (i) Mirabai chants these lines as she holds in her hands the cup of poison sent to her in the form of Chamamrit.

- (ii) Mirabai pays in full the greatest price of her extreme love for Lord Krishna.

(iii) Mirabai is dedicated and devout worshipper of Lord Krishna. She loves him more than anything else in the world. For her, Krishna is everything. He is 'her love', 'life', 'self', 'soul' and 'all'

24.3 SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS:

(i) '.....I ll tales have reached my ears of your behaviour since you became a daughter of our house,' says Rana . what has he heard about her?

Ans. Rana Sanga had heard about the ugly situation created in the place due to the following reasons:

- Mirabai worships Lord Krishna and not the family deity goddess Durga.
- She fails to discharge her duties as a wife. Instead, she spends her time writing Verses and is often found in prayer with the priests.
- Above all, she has disobeyed the Rani. She is obstinate and hard as granite and disrespectful towards the Rani.

(ii) When Sanjogta says, 'The clouds are heavy. There is thunder in the air', the nurse replies, 'Inside the palace and out'. Explain.

Ans. Sanjogta meant the clouds and the thunder outside, the natural phenomenon, but the nurse meant to say that the atmosphere inside the palace was also equally stormy. The air was tense. There was trouble brewing with the Rana and Rani on one side and Mirabai on the other. She realized that the Rani and the others were conspiring to harm Mirabai.

(iii) "One's faith is one's own" In the light of this statement, comment upon Mirabai's Devotion to Lord Krishna.

Ans. This remark is made by Mirabai to Rana Sanga when the latter tried to dissuade her from worshipping Lord Krishna. He reminded her to worship goddess Durga who was the family deity. Mirabai had been devoted to the worship of Lord Krishna since her childhood. So strong was her faith that he drank the poisoned Charnamrit without any fear. All her time was spent in praying, writing and singing devotional songs only.

24.3 LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS :

(i) Write a character sketch of Mirabai giving incidents from the text that reveal her character.

Ans. Mirabai was a very religious person. She spent her time in prayer and in writing devotional verses in praise of Lord Krishna. She is also a private person and feels that 'one's own'. She was courageous and did se courage while facing the Rana. She was prepared to be killed rather than yield to the Rana's order to stop worshipping Krishna. Mirabai also across as a determined person. Despite opposition, and a threat to her life, she was not willing to give up her worship of Lord Krishna. She has faith in the rightness of her devotion. This drink gives her the strength of mind to drink the Chamamrit even though she realizes it may be poisoned. She is an innocent, guileless person. According to her nurse, her bosom is pure like a white lotus. She bears no ill-will against anyone. Open and straightforward Mirabai dismisses her nurse's plea that she hide her faith and act as if she had repented. Mirabai had a strong belief in destiny. She had full faith In the justice to be dispensed by the Almighty and gladly drank the poisoned Chamamrit. Despite living in a hostile world, Mirabai is cheerful and gentle Even when the Rani sends her maid to spy on her. Mirabai does not lose her temper.

(ii) What is Rana Sanga's attitude towards Mirabai ?

Ans. In the beginning 'Rana Sanga is not unsympathetic towards Mirabai. He does not see any fault in her devotion to Lord Krishna as long as she does not neglect her duties as a wife. He finds her quite gentle. It is only when the 'Rani poisons his ears that he changes his altitude towards her. He summons her to his presence and tries to reason with her and advise her. He even tries to bribe her

Into changing her ways by offering her jewellery Only when she is adamant **in her** refusal to give up her faith that he loses his temper and accuses her of defying his orders.

(iii) Attempt three chief qualities of the Rani as a mother-in-law.

Ans. The Rani is a shrewd woman. She has jealousy towards Mirabai. She incites Rana Sanga, her husband, against Mirabai. She complains that Mirabai worships Krishna . she does not worship Durga, who is the goddess of the house. She even tell a lie to poison the ears of the Rana. She says that Mirabai disobeys her. The Rani is not a courageous or brave woman. She cannot face Mirabai, so she retires before Mirabai comes to see the Rana. She sets spies on Mirabai and wants to harm her. She has evil designs against Mirabai. Ultimately she succeeds in sending a cup of poison to Mirabai in the name of Charnamrti.

(iv) What sort of life, according to the nurse, is Mirabai Leading in the palace?

Or

Mirabai says to the servant of the Rani that she is “.....in a strange land” and is “little better than a captive” Explain her statement.

Ans . Mirabai is leading a lonely life in the palace. The nurse says that the Rani hates Mirabai and is envious of her beauty. Out of jealousy, the Rani dislikes Mirabai and poisons the ears of the Rana against her. She sets spies on Mirabai. The atmosphere is so vicious that even the servant of the palace will be glad if some harm comes to Mirabai. She is a prisoner in her rooms. Sanjogta and of a captive.

(v) Why does Rana angry with Mirabai? How did he advise her to get out of her devotion of Krishna ?

Ans. Rani being a crafty and spiteful woman kept inciting Rana against Mirabai. She accused Mirabai of defying her orders and neglecting her wedded duties. Provoked and incited, Rana sent for Mirabai and asked her to worship Durga instead of Krishna. He advised her to mix with the ladies of the house and take pleasure in trinkets and other worldly possessions. According to him, she had made herself sick with too much brooding. He offered to get her a necklace of rare stones and advised her to spend her time in bringing up her sons well as they were the future of Chittor.

(vi) Imagine that you are a drama critic. Write a review of the dramatization.

Ans. The play ‘Mirabai’ deals with the life of a young princess Mira when she comes in the palace of the Rana of Mewar as a wife of Bhojraj, the king’s son. It is fine dramatization of the treatment meted out to Mira in her new home. Almost all the characters have lived up to their role. The whole scene proves an excellent picturisation of the palace vis-à-vis Mirabai’s sincere devotion to Lord Krishna. The roles, language and dialogues are apt, concise and illustrative. All these help build up the atmosphere of the play.

The dramatization is beautifully organized on the stage to produce the desired effects. The characters by their entrances, exists, props etc. make it a coherent whole with exact expressions on their faces suiting the ups and downs of their surcharged emotions.

The music has been blended suitably with various stages of the play that it seems to be their integral part.

The costumes are in full agreement with the period with which the play deals.

The rendering of the play is flawless, and almost near perfection. It depicts the nuances of a play. The heightened glory is revealed in Mirabai’s taking the ‘Charnamrti’ and drinking it in her humble service to her master, Lord Krishna. The suspense builds up and the climax reached. The audience are enthralled and transported to a bygone era. Mira pays in full the price of being devoted to Krishna. The lord saves his devotee. The poison has no adverse effect on Mira. The ending thrills and excites the spectators.



THE BISHOP'S CANDLESTICKS



Eng. L - 25

25.1 SUMMARY

This play is about how a Bishop brings transformation in a convict. The play is set in the house of the Bishop on a cold winter night. On the mantelpiece are two handsome candlesticks quite out of place with the plain furnishings of the room. Marie, the maidservant, is busy stirring the soup on the fire and Persome, the Bishop's sister is laying the table and keeping an eye on the soup being cooked by Marie. Persome is worried as it is already past 11'o clock and her brother has not yet returned. She wonders where her brother, the Bishop, was at that late hour. She asks Marie if there is any message. Marie tells her that the Bishop has gone to see her ailing mother. This angers Persome who feels that most people take advantage of her simple brother who is always eager to help the poor and the needy.

While the table is being laid for dinner, Persome asks Marie if she has placed the salt cellars on the table. Marie tells her that the Bishop had sold the salt cellars to pay the house rent of Mere Gringoire who was being troubled by the bailiff. Persome curses the old lady for taking advantage of her brother, lamenting that in this way the Bishop, who has already sold many of his belongings to help others, would sell everything. The bishop enters the cottage and informs Marie that her mother was better. He gives her his comforter and asks her to go home since it was very cold. Persome, who has been crying, gets very angry with the Bishop.

When Marie leaves, she tells him that people lie to him get help from him. The Bishop regrets that there is so much suffering in the world and so little he can do.

To show her anger and resentment over his selling her salt cellars, Persome taunts the Bishop that one day he would sell the candlesticks also. The Bishop assures her that he would never sell the candlesticks, as they were given to him by his dying mother and are a token other memory. However, in the next breath he feels bad to set such store by them.

As it is midnight, Persome goes off to bed and the Bishop sits down to read. Suddenly, a runaway convict with a long knife in his hand enters the room. He threatens to kill the Bishop if he tries to call out, and demands food. The Bishop greets him lovingly and assures him that he shall have food. He called Persome to open the cupboard. Persome is scared to see the convict with the knife in his hand but the Bishop consoles her and takes the keys of the cupboard from her. He then serves the convict cold pie, wine, and bread.

After having his fill, the convict feels relaxed. He tells the Bishop he has lived in Hell for ten years. He narrates the circumstances under which he was imprisoned. Once he, too, had a lovely wife and a home. His wife, Jeanette, was ill and dying and there was no food. He could not get work.

So he stole money to buy food for her. He was caught and sentenced to ten years in prison. The jailor told him that his wife had died the night he was sentenced.

He recounts his sufferings in the prison and says that one day when the jailers forgot to chain him, he escaped. They took away his name and only gave him a number. After his escape from prison, he had been wandering from pillar to post without food and shelter, pursued by the gendarmes.

The Bishop is moved on hearing his story. He consoles the convict and tells him that although he has

Suffered a great deal yet there was hope for him. Then he asks the convict to sleep in his room and assures him that no harm would come to him. Saying this, the Bishop goes inside to bring him a coverlet. The convict happens to see the candlesticks on the mantelpiece. He takes them down and finds that they're quite heavy and made of pure silver. On his return the Bishop finds the candlesticks in the convict's hands. He tells the convict that they're a parting gift from his mother. He bids the convict goodnight and goes to sleep.

'The convict decides to steal the candlesticks and use them to start a new life. He does think of the Bishop's kindness but hardens his heart, stuffs the candlesticks in his pocket, and escapes.

Persome wakes up on hearing the noise and rushes downstairs. She finds the candlesticks missing and raises a hue and cry. She wakes up the Bishop and informs him of the theft. The Bishop regrets the loss of the candlesticks but refuses to call in the police, as he doesn't want the convict to be sent back to the prison once again to suffer.

Just then a sergeant enters the cottage with the convict led by three constables. He tells the Bishop of the circumstances under which he caught the thief. He had been moving along the roads suspiciously. On searching him they found the candlesticks on his person. The sergeant remembered that they belonged to the Bishop so he arrested the thief and brought him there.

The Bishop tells the sergeant that the gentleman he had brought was his good friend and he, himself, had given the candlesticks to him the previous night. The sergeant finds it difficult to accept this explanation. However, he releases the prisoner and goes out;

The convict is now a changed man. He is overwrought, elmed with remorse. He begs forgiveness from the Bishop. The Bishop has made him feel that he was a man again and not a beast. He asks his permission to go to Paris. The Bishop gives him the candlesticks saying that they might help him and tells him of a safe route to Paris. As a parting advice, he tells the convict to remember that the body was the Temple of the Living God.

The convict assures him he would remember that all his life.

25.2 CHARACTERS:

25.2 (i) The Bishop:

The Bishop is a loving and self-sacrificing person. The people in the parish send for him whenever they are in trouble and he rushes to their aid in all kinds of weather unmindful of his personal comfort. So much so that he has sold all his possessions except for a pair of silver candlesticks given to him by his dying mother to help the poor. His sister Persome says. 'His estate is sold his savings have gone. His furniture everything. Were it not for my little dot we should starve!'

The Bishop is a caring person and he wraps his comforter around Marie when she is about to go out into the cold night air.

The Bishop's innocence and naiveté often earns for him the anger of his sister: Persome. But he gently remarks. 'if people like to me they are poorer not I :

Being a compassionate man the Bishop is heard lamenting. There is so much suffering in the world, and I can do so very little.

He is kind generous towards the convict. The convict enters his house stealthily threatens him with a knife and after receiving food and hospitality from the Bishop. Steals his candlesticks. But when the gendarmes bring him back to the Bishop's house the Bishop claims he has given the candlesticks to the convict. It is his compassion that changes the convict.

The Bishop is also a deeply religious and pious man. He advises the convict to lead a good life as 'this poor body is the Temple of the Living God'.

25.2 (ii) PERSOME:

PERSOME THE Bishop's sister. Is a short-tempered person. She rebukes Marie and calls her a nincompoop. She seems to be hard and unfeeling and is angry when the Bishop puts his cornforter around Marie before she goes out into the cold night.

A haughty woman. Persome is angry with old Mere Gringoire and calls her an old witch. Mere Gringoire, too, is afraid of her temper.

She loves her brother to a fault and is very protective of him. She feels people take advantage of his goodness of heart and abuse his generosity.

She worries about him when he is out late. Most of her faults are born out of her love and concern for her brother.

Being a timid person, Persome is afraid of the convict, but at her brothers bidding she gives him food. Persome is a materialistic person. She is upset with brother for selling the silver salt cellars and as soon as she discovers the candlesticks are missi9ng, she wishes to inform the police.

25.3 TEXTUAL COMPREHENSION:

Read the extracts given below and answer the following questions:

1. *Persome: 'Monseigneur the bishop is a ahem!'*

- (i) Why does Persome not complete the sentence?
- (ii) Why is she angry with the Bishop?
- (iii) What is persome's attitude towards her brother? Why?

Ans. (i) Persome is angry with the Bishop and is about to say something rude and derogatory about him in anger. She then thinks better of it as she does not wish to insult him in his absence in front of Marie. So she checks herself.

(ii) Persome is angry with the Bishop as he, has sold her silver saltcellars without informing her to help poor Mere Gringoire pay her rent. Persome feels that the old woman is taking advantage of the Bishop's kindness and his trusting nature.

(iii) Persome is protective towards her brother as she feels people take advantage of his generosity and kindness.

2. *'Oh. Mon Dieul it is hopeless. We shall have nothing left. His' estate is sold, his savings have gone. His furniture, everything. Were it not for my little dot we should starvel And now my beautiful-beautiful (sod) salt cellars. Ah, it is too much, too much.'*

- (i) Who speaks these lines ? Who is she speaking about ?
- (ii) Why does the speaker say they will have nothing left ?
- (iii) Why has he sold everything ?
- (iv) What does 'dot' mean ?

Ans. (i) Persome says this about her brother, the Bishop.

(ii) they will have nothing left as the Bishop sells his belongings to give money to anyone who comes to him for help. He has given away his saving and has sold his estate and even his furniture.

(iii) he has sold all he had to help the poor and needy people.

(iv) 'Dot' means the dowry that was given to her when she got married.

3. Bishop : people lie of me they are poorer, not I ;
Persome : 'But it is ridiculous; you will soon have nothing felt. You give away everything, everything, everything'

Bishop : My dear, there is also much suffering in the world, and I can do little, so very little'.

- (i) Why does Persome feel people lie to her brother ?
- (ii) What two questions of the bishop are highlighted here ?
- (iii) How does Persome differ from her brother ?

Ans. (i) she feels he is very simple and people take advantage of his goodness. They lie to him that they are in need and take money from him.

(ii) The bishop is kind and generous to the poor and the needy. So much so that they take advantage of the fact. He is easily deceived by the unscrupulous people who even lie to him for getting money from him. He is also forgiving and bears no anger towards those who lie to him.

(iii) Persome is practical and down-to-earth. She can see though the people who would fool her brother with their hard-luck stories.

4. 'None of that my friend I'm too old a bird to be caught with chaff. You would ask your sister for the keys would you? A likely story! You would rouse the house too. Eh ? He ! A good joke truly. Come where is the food? Want no keys. I have a wolf inside me tearing at my entrails, tearing me,'

- (i) Who is the speaker? Whom he is addressing ?
- (ii) What makes him say 'None of that my friend'?
- (iii) Explain 'I m too old a bird to be caught with chaff.'
- (iv) What does he mean when he says, 'I have a wolf inside me tearing at my entrails'?

5. 'That was when I was a man a , now I am not a man, I am a number 15729, and I have lived in hell fourteen years.

- (i) When was he a man?
- (ii) Give two reasons why the speaker feels he is no longer a man.

Ans.(i) He was a man ten years ago when he lived in a cottage with his wife. Jeanette.

(ii) The speaker was treated like an animal by the gaolers. He was chained up like a wild a wild animal. He was whipped and was not given proper food to eat. He was covered with vermin, like lice, fleas etc. he was made to sleep on hard boards and was not called by his name but by a number.

6. 'Ah! I am a fool, a child to cry, but somehow you have made me feel that ... that is just as if something had come into me ... as if were a man again and not a wild beast.'

- (i) Why is the speaker crying?
- (ii) What does he mean by 'as if something had come into me'?
- (iii) Who brought about the change in him? How?

- Ans. (i) The Bishop had been kind to the convict. He had him and given him a place to stay. But the speaker had stolen from him. Yet when he was 'caught and taken to the Bishop the letter said he had given the candlesticks to the convict. This makes the convict realize his mistake and he cries.
- (ii) The speaker is feeling a change in him because of the Bishop's kindness. The goodness that had so long lain dormant in him has once again been revived.
- (iii) The Bishop, through his goodness and forgiveness brought about the change in him.

7. ...but-but ! I don't want to sell them. You see, dear, my mother gave them to me on-on her death-bed just after you were born, and-and she asked me to keep them in remembrance of her, so I would like to keep them; but perhaps it is a sin to set such store by them?
- (i) Who speaks these words and to whom?
- (ii) Identify 'them'. Why is the speaker led to talk about 'them'?
- (iii) What is the Bishop's attitude towards the candlesticks?

- Ans. (i) The Bishop speaks these words to his sister, Persome.
- (ii) 'Them' refers to the silver candlesticks of the Bishop. They are now the only valuable item left in the house. Persome remarks that some day the Bishop would sell them to pay somebody's rent. The Bishop appreciates persome's concern for the poor and begins to talk about the candlesticks.
- (iii) (a) The Bishop loves them as a token of memory of his mother and would preserve them. He doesn't want to sell them.
- (b) He considers it a sin to be so much attached to them.

8. Ah, you are admiring my candlesticks. I am proud of them. They were a gift from my mother. A little too handsome for this poor cottage perhaps, but all I have to remind me of her. Your bed is ready. Will you lie down now?
- (i) Who speaks these words and to whom?
- (ii) Why is the speaker led to utter these words?
- (iii) What does the Bishop tell the convict about the candlesticks?
- (iv) What does the Bishop do for the convict? What trait of the Bishop's character does it reveal?

- Ans. (i) The Bishop speaker these words to the convict.
- (ii) The convict, left alone, sees the candlesticks, finds them made of silver and is tempted. He weighs them in his hand.
- (iii) He tells the convict that he is very proud of the candlesticks which were a gift from his mother, They are a token of her memory although they are quite handsome for his poor cottage.
- (iv) He makes bed for the convict, supplies him coverings and asks him to lie down. This shows that his heart is full of the milk of kindness.

9. 'I offered to take her in here for a day or two, but she seemed to think it might distress you.'
- (i) Who speaks these words? Who is he speaking to?
- (ii) Who is the person being spoken about?
- (iii) Why did he wish to take her in?

(iv) Why did she think her being 'taken in' might distress the person being spoken to?

Ans. (i) The Bishop speaks these words. He is speaking to his sister, Persome.

(ii) Mere Gringoire

(iii) He wished to take her in because she was bad-ridden

10. And have him sent back to prison, (very softly), sent back to Hell. No Persome. It is just punishment for me; I set too great store by them. It was a sin. 'My punishment is just, but oh ! God, it is hard, it is very hard.

(i) Who does (him' refer to? What does the speaker not favour ?

(ii) What 'punishment' is the speaker talking about?

(iii) How does the speaker react to this punishment?

Ans. (i) 'Him' refers to the convict. The speaker i.e. the Bishop is against reporting the theft of candlesticks to the police. He does not favour sending him back to 'Hell' i. e. the prison (ii) He is talking about the spiritual punishment he has received on being separated from the candlesticks, which were a symbol of his mother's memory.

(iii) The Bishop think that he has been punished justly by God since he thought too much of the silver candlesticks, which he being a man of God must not do. However, he finds it very hard to bear the punishment.

11. yes, my friend. He did me the honour to sup with me to-night, and I-I have given him the candlesticks.

(i) Who speaks these line and to whom?

(ii) Who 'is he' here and how him?

(iii) How does the person spoken to react to this speech?

Ans.(i) The Bishop is speaking to the Sergeant who has brought the convict with him along with the candlesticks.

(ii) 'He' here is the convict. The Bishop looks at him as a friend who took supper with him.

(iii) The Sergeant finds it difficult to believe in what the Bishop says.

25.4 SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS:

(i) Do you think the Bishop was right in salt-cellars? Why /Why/ Why ?

Ans. Yes, I think the Bishop was right in selling the salt-cellars. He did so for a noble cause. He helped a poor old woman pay her rent. If the Bishop had not done so, she would have been ejected out of the cottage and left with no shelter.

(ii) Why does Persome feel the people pretend to be sick?

Ans. Persome feel that people pretend to be sick to get sympathy from the Bishop and force him to visit them, pray for them, comfort and console them and sit with them even on dark chilly nights.

(iii) Who was Jeanette? What was the cause for her death?

Ans. Jeanette was the wife of the convict. She was ill. They had no food. Being out of work, the man could not buy food or medicines for Jeanette. He tried to steal to get money to buy her food, but he was

caught and sentenced to prison. Jeanette died the same night of starvation, illness, Lack of attention and medicine.

(iv) Do you think the punishment given to the convict was justified? Why/Why not? Why is the convict eager to reach Paris?

Ans. No, I don't think the punishment given to the convict was at all justified. His crime was a minor one. On the other hand the punishment was too harsh and not all proportionate to the 'enormity' of the offence. The convict is eager to reach Paris because he will be lost there in the crowd of the big city. He will not be identified or caught by the police again. He can begin a new life with the money obtained by selling the candlesticks.

(v) Before leaving, the convict asks the Bishop to bless him. What brought about this change in him?

Ans. The Bishop's kindness and sympathetic treatment brought this transformation in the convict. The Bishop brought this transformation in the convict. The Bishop told the sergeant that the man was his friend. He even told a lie to save the convict from being sent to jail again. He said that he had himself given the candlestick to the man. The convict was touched at this kindness of the Bishop. He told the man a short route to Paris and gave him the candlesticks to start his life. The transformation from beast to man is now complete. The convict sobs and seeks the Bishop's blessings before leaving for Paris.

(vi) Why does the convict steal the Bishop's candlesticks?

Ans. The Bishop serves the convict nicely. He offers him food and a bed to sleep on. Initially, the convict hesitates when he thinks of the kind treatment given by Bishop. But his nature comes to the fore. He is tempted to steal the candlesticks as he feels that would help him to start life in a new manner.

(vii) Why does the Bishop not inform the police of the theft of his candlestick?

Ans. The Bishop had heard how the convict had suffered in the hell i.e. the prison. He has seen how the harsh treatment has transformed him into a hardened criminal-a beast. He does not want the criminal to be sent back to Hell again. So he does not inform the police of the theft of the candlesticks.

(viii) How did the Bishop bring a change in the heart of the convict?

OR

The Bishop makes the convict a man again. How ?

Ans. The Bishop treats the convict with love, sympathy and kindness. He offers him food. He listens to his story of suffering. He feels pity for him. He saves him from being sent to prison again. In the end, He gives him the candlesticks to start a new life. The convict's heart is touched. The Bishop's goodness makes him a man again.

(ix) The convict says, 'They have made me what I am, they have made me a thief.' Explain the circumstances that made the convict a thief.

Ans. Ten years ago, the convict lived in a small cottage with his wife, Jeanette. His wife was seriously ill. At that time the convict was without a job. Jeanette needed food and medicine. So he stole money to buy her food. He was caught and sent to the prison ships. Here he was treated very badly. He was chained and lashed with whips. He was treated, not as a human being but as an animal. His name and soul were taken away from him. This inhuman treatment changed the man into a beast.

25.5 LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS :

(i) DESCRIBE THE FIRST ENCOUNTER BETWEEN THE Bishop and the convict.

OR

Why does the convict enter the Bishop's house ? How is he treated by the Bishop ?

Ans. It is about mid-night. The Bishop, who is alone in his room, sits down to read. Just then a convict enters stealthily. He has a long knife in his hand. He seizes the Bishop from behind and threatens to kill him if he calls out. The Bishop remains calm and asks the man if he can help him. The convict demands food for he hasn't eaten anything for three days. The kind Bishop takes pity on him and says that he will ask his sister for the keys of the cupboard. Then he will give him food. He gets up to call Persome. The convict stands behind the Bishop with his knife ready. Persome gives him the keys of the cupboard. The Bishop serves the convict bread, cold pie and a bottle of wine.

(ii) Write a brief character-sketch of Persome?

Ans. Persome, the Bishop's sister, is short-tempered, . she rebukes the maid. She is haughty, selfish and abusive. She calls Marie a nincompoop, and Mere Gringoire an 'old witch'. She seems an unfeeling lady. she does not like it when the Bishop gives his comforter to Marie. She loves her brother deeply and looks after him. She knows that her brother is innocent like a child. She is worried when he stays out at night. She is attached to property and is pained at the loss of costly articles, furniture and estate. She is timid and feels afraid of the convict. Being materialistic she want to inform the police when the candlesticks are stolen. However she obeys the Bishop and remains silent. She serves food to the convict at the Bishop's order.

(iii) What do you think are the situations that can be termed as the turning point in the convict's life? Write the changes you see in the convict's attitude.

Ans. The convict is the product of the society he lived in both in terms of the suffering that led to him stealing a loaf of bread and the excessive sentence he received as punishment for his 'crime'. He went into prison for stealing money to buy food for his sick wife and left it filled with despair, hopelessness: Bitterness, and anger at the injustice of his treatment. He has also become accustomed to doing whatever is necessary to survive and has little thought for dignity and principles...

(iv) The Convict goes to Paris, sells the silver candlesticks and starts a business. The business prospers and he starts a reformatory for ex-convicts. He writes a letter to the Bishop telling him of this reformatory and seeks his blessings. As the convict, Mike D' Souza, write the letter to the Bishop.

Ans. Mike D' Souza Reformatory

Paris

28 February 200X

Respected Father

You must be amazed to receive this letter from an ex-convict. I still remember the cold winter night

when I entered your study with a long knife in my hand and demanded food like a hungry beast. Your nobility, divine forgiveness and sympathy awakened my lost soul and when I left you, I was a completely transformed person. The meeting with you has proved turning point in my life. I earned from business to run this reformatory.

I know from my experience that an ex-convict has to face many problems in getting food, shelter and employment. He can't even dream of getting social acceptability. I have started many trades in the reformatory so that ex-convict could start with dignity by doing some useful work and earning money by honest means. I'll always remember your practical example and practice the various human virtues like mercy, pity sympathy, fellow feeling, cooperation and tolerance. We have also arranged sermons by religious / great men on weekends.

Recitals from scriptures are held regularly.

We would be grateful to you if you could honour us with your visit on the reformatory's annual function on 25 April 200X and bless the inmates. I always seek your blessings.

With abiding gratitude

Yours sincerely

Mike D'souza



CONNECTORS



Eng. L. - 26

- Connectors are the words that are used to join or connect single words, phrases, clauses or sentences. Words like '**and**', '**but**', '**or**', '**so**', '**yet**', '**still**' are connectors. E.g.

- ✎ Slow and steady wins the race.
- ✎ He is rich **but** unhappy.

Words like '**though**', '**although**', '**while**', '**whereas**', '**neither**', '**therefore**', '**both**', '**Only**' also come in this category.

- Connectors are used for various purposes. They are used for :

- ✎ Adding information

e.g. furthermore, in addition, moreover, and

- ✎ Expressing similarity

e.g. in the same way, similarly

- ✎ Expressing difference

e.g. while, whereas, but, instead, or

- ✎ Expressing purpose

e.g. so that, otherwise, in order to, in case, for

- ✎ Showing time

e.g. when, after, as soon as

E. g.

- ◆ Paul can't walk very fast **though** he is very tall. (Concession expressed)
- ◆ Sandhya likes singing **whereas/ while** her sister likes swimming. (contrast shown)
- ◆ The theatre was half empty **as/ because** it was raining heavily. (Reason given)
- ◆ An accident happened where the public meeting was going on. (place mentioned)
- ◆ The firemen had not arrived when the fire was put out. (Time indicated)
- ◆ Sandra can sing as melodiously as any of her classmates. (Comparison made)
- ◆ You will feel comfortable if you open all the windows. (Condition to be fulfilled)
- ◆ It rained so hard that we could not go out in the evening. (Result given)
- ◆ My brother likes to study physics while I enjoy reading English. (contrast shown)
- ◆ She decided to take only two meals a day so that / in order that she could reduce her weight. (Purpose expressed)

PRACTICE EXERCISE

A. Join the sentence groups using suitable connectors.

1. he failed the exam. He had not studied.
2. I do not like milk. I do not like cheese
3. She is rich. She is humble.
4. He cannot swim. He can play tennis
5. I was bruised. I completed the race.
6. Sushil and Sushma are twins. They have different tastes.
7. Sam fractured his thing bone. He is in hospital.
8. We feel hungry. We go to the school cafeteria.
9. Niharika must submit her homework by tomorrow. The teacher will punish her otherwise.
10. The girls were studying. The boys were having a chalk fight.

B. The following passage needs to be edited. There in one error in each line against which you find a blank. Write the incorrect word and the correction against the correct blank number.

Curves may have made a comeback worldwide, and it's cocaine chic (a)
 That's yet got girls addicted in India. Young people like to go (b)
 Out also they want to eat what their peers are eating at the (c)
 Junk food joints. Thus to compensate for the pizza and coke (d)
 at dinner, they starve themselves thought the day. They know that
 they are hurting themselves while short-term social acceptance (e).....
 is preferable to long-term health gains. Chips or colas are fine, (f).....
 Which they should be offered as a treat to children. (g).....
 Healthy eating is the way to lose weight because staying fit, (h).....
 But most adolescents take some convincing.

C. The following paragraph has not been edited. There is one error in each line. Write the incorrect word and the correction against the correct blank number.

Anamika's favorite subject in school was Maths. She

Enjoyed solving problems, but was enthusiastic (a)
 For new problems. And many of her friends (b)

Found Maths extremely difficult and until they thought it (c).....
 Was a difficult subject as they as they saw no point in working at it.. (d)
 Maths as a subject was least popular and many students (e).....
 Did not like it. Then Anamilka decided to help three of her friends (f).....

So she was a patient girl, she explained the concepts (g).....

One by one to them but they all thanked her for her assistance. (h).....

D. In the following passage, one word has been omitted in each line. Write the missing word along with the word that comes before and the word that comes after it against the correct blank number.

Car tyres act as cushions for the wheels give the car (a)
 A good grip on the
 Road that it can be prevented from (b)
 Skidding turning corner, or when the brakes (c)
 Are applied. A smooth tyres grips the road better even (d)
 Racing cars are fitted with smooth tyres. Non-racing (e).....
 Cars cannot move on smooth tyres the roads they (f).....
 Move on are not always dry.

E. Fill in the blanks in the given passage with one word only.

Doctors praise adhesive bandages (a)they keep wound clean,(b)
 Create a good environment for healing. They hold the skin together (c)keep it moist (d)
they provided padding for the wound (e).....the only problem
 is removing them, (f).....sometimes one has to even use one's teeth to remove it.

F. The following passage has not been edited. There is one error in each line. Write the incorrect word and the correction against the correct blank number.

The basis for borrowing or lending money is absolute honesty. (a)
 Some people do not repay merely so they forget that they owe (b)
 Money to others. We can't refuse to help them however they are (c)
 Our friends. Since Punit comes to me very often he does not bring (d)
 The book I have lent him. I suspect that neither he has forgotten (e).....
 All about it and else he has given it to some friends of his (f).....
 have not reminded him so far if I need the book badly (g).....
 And will have to ask for it in a day or two. (h)

G. In the following passage, one word has been omitted in each line. Write the missing word along the word that comes before and the word that comes after it against the correct blank number.

I went to buy a magnifying glass I wanted to study palmistry. (a)
 I went to the counter asked the salesman to show me one (b)
 Good piece. The shop had plain glasses not magnifying (c)
 Glasses. I was compelled to go to another shop. The shopkeeper (d)
 Attended to me himself he was very busy. (e).....
 He showed me one glass after another I didn't approve (f).....
 Any one. He felt irritated that he asked one of his assistants (g).....
 To help me. The smart young man asked me plaint (h)
 Whether I wanted to buy one not

ANSWERS

- A. 1.As 2. either-nor 3. Thought – yet 4. But
 5. even then 6.but 7. so 8. when
 9. else 10. whereas
- B. (a)and but (b)yet still (c)also and (d)Thus so
 (e) while but (f) or and (g)which but (h)because while
- C. (a) but and (b) And But (c) until as (d)as so
 (e) and so (f) Then But (g)so As (h) but and
- D. (a) wheels and give (b) road so that (c) skidding while turning (d)better so then (e)tyres. But non-racing
 (f) tyres as the (g)which but (h) but and
- E. (a)as/ because (b) and (c)and (d)so
 (e)but c (f) because/as
- F. (a) or and (b) so because (c)however as (d)Since Although (e) neither either (f) and or
 (g) but and (h) if but
- G. (a) glass as I (b) counter and asked (c) glasses but not (d)glasses. So I (e)himself although he (f)
 another but I (g)felt so irritated (h) one or not



CAN NOT REMEMBER MY MOTHER



Eng. L. - 27

27.1 SUMMARY

In this poem, Tagore has beautifully captured the emotions of a child who lost his mother in infancy and has only a faint recollection of her now. He cannot remember what his mother looked like or any other specific details about her but there are certain things, which he associates with her, which remind him of her. The first thing he remembers about her is the tune of a song she used to hum while rocking his cradle. He is reminded of it when he sees his playthings. Similarly, the scent of the shiuli flowers bring his mother to his mind. Probably his mother may have worn them in her hair or plucked them to offer in the temple. The smell of the incense sticks that comes from the temple also reminds him of his mother who probably burnt them while praying. He, however, feels closest to his mother when he looks up at the sky and feels as if his mother was gazing down from the heavens, keeping a loving watch on him. All this makes the poem very moving and emotional.

27.2 TEXTUAL COMPREHENSION:

Read the extracts given below and answer the questions that follow each:

- (i) I cannot remember my mother
Only sometimes in the midst of my play
A tune seems to hover over my playthings,
The tune of some song that she used to
Hum while rocking my cradle.
- (a) Why do you think that the poet does not remember his mother?
(b) Where does the poet sense the tune?
(c) What is 'tune' all about?
(d) Explain: 'seems to hover over my plaything'.

- Ans.** (a) The poet probably lost his mother when he was rather young. So he cannot recollect her face.
(b) The poet senses the tune hovering over his toys or playthings when he plays with them.
(c) This 'tune' is actually about his mother. It is of the song she used to hum while rocking the cradle.
(d) The poet doesn't remember his mother, as probably he was just an infant when she died. However, a tune haunts him when he plays with his toys, etc. which was probably a song sung by his mother while rocking his cradle.

- (ii) But when in the early autumn morning
The smell of shiuli flowers floats in the air
The scent of the morning service in the temple
Comes to me as the scent of my mother.

- (a) When does the poet remember his mother? How is he reminded?
- (b) What do you think the poet's mother did with the shiuli flowers?
- (c) Explain: 'the scent of the morning services in the temple'.

Ans.(a)The poet remembers his mothering the early autumn. Shiuli flowers grow in autumn. Their fragrance reminds the poet of his mother.

(b) She offered them in prayer in the morning service in the temple or wore them in her hair.

(c) The fragrance of the shiuli flowers and of the incense burnt in the temple.

- (iii) I cannot remember my mother

Only when from my bedroom window I send
My eyes into the blue of the distant sky,
I feel that the stillness of my mother's gaze on my face
Has spread all over the sky.

- (a) Where does the poet look from the window /
- (b) Why does the poet compare the mother's gaze to the clear sky ?
- (c) How does the poet recollect his mother while looking into the distant sky ?

Ans.(a) The poet looks into the distant blue sky from his bedroom window.

(b) On a clear day when the sky is peaceful and serene, the poet feels the presence of his mother and imagines that she is gazing down lovingly at him. He sees the same quality of stillness and peace in the clear sky.

(c) The poet recollects his mother through her silent gaze over his face and then spreading over the distant blue sky.

27.3 TEXTUAL QUESTIONS:

- (i) Where, when and how does the poet feel the presence of his mother?

Ans. The poet feels the presence of his mother almost in whatever he does. When he plays with his toys he feels a tune hover over them. This tune is of a song that his mother used to sing while she cradled him. When it is the early autumn morning, the smell of shiuli flowers in the air. The scent of the morning service in the temple comes to him. This 'scent' is of his mother. When he looks outside through his bedroom window, he feels the silent gaze of his mother on his face. He feels this has spread all over the sky.

- (ii) What impression of the poet's mother do you form? How?

Ans. The poet can't remember exactly what his mother was like. However, he feels her in almost everything that he does. From this we can infer that the poet's mother used to love the poet greatly. She used to cradle him to sleep when he was an infant. Secondly, she was a religious lady. She used to offer her prayers in the temple with shiuli flowers. His mother used to be a loving, understanding and kind-hearted woman. The poet feels that she is not dead. But she live in almost everything that belongs to the poet. She is always with him. She hovers over his plaything and toys everytime.



THE WOMAN PLATFORM - 8



28.1 SUMMARY:

In the story 'The Woman of Platform-8'. Arun is a school boy, who is waiting for a train on platform no-8, at Ambala station. The story narrates how even strangers may prove more helpful and caring than those know to us. Arun is befriended and taken care of by a stranger woman while his own friend's mother neglects and behaves rudely to him. It is late in the evening. Arun is waiting at platform no-8. a woman dressed in white saree approaches him. Though suspicious of her intention at first, Arun feels compelled to go with her because of her aura of calm dignity and simplicity. She takes Arun to the canteen and gets him some refreshments." in the meantime, his friend, Satish, arrives with his mother who views the stranger woman with suspicion. Arun doesn't appreciate her overbearing and supercilious behaviour. When his train comes, he takes leave of the stranger woman addressing her as 'mother,. He doesn't want her to feel disgraced before satish's mother. This shows deeply touched and grateful Arun was for her kind and generous behaviour.

28.2 SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS:

- (i) What made Arun call the strange woman 'mother' at the end?

Ans. Arun called the stranger woman 'mother' at the end, because she had treated him tenderly and offered him tea and sweets. She listened to him and showed trust in him. He liked her kindness and graceful behaviour. She introduced herself as his mother. She supported Arun against satish's mother, Arun wanted to repay her kindness by acknowledging her as mother.

- (ii) Satish's mothers said "And never talk to strangers." How did Arun & Satish react to her advice?

Ans. When satish's mother said-"And never talk to strangers" both Arun and Satish reacted with disagreement. Arun looked at the stranger woman who was so kind to him and replied obstinately that he liked strangers, satish's mother was shocked by his reply and she repeated her advice, Arun moved closer to the stranger woman. He developed a sense of resentment for satish's mother on the other side, Satish grinned at Arun and was delighted in the clash between Arun and his mother.

- (iii) Why does the stranger clutch Arun's arm and dig her fingers when she sees the other boy standing at the edge of the platform? What trait of her personality is highlighted thus?

Ans. The stranger clutches Arun's arm and digs her fingers into his flesh after she sees the other boy standing at the edge of the platform, probably because she felt that the child crossing the railway track was exposing himself to the danger of being run over by a passing train. She might have been a witness to a similar accident earlier. Her behavior shows that she is a sensitive person who reacts in sympathy to the suffering of others and tries to keep calm and controlled in a difficult situation.

- (iv) Contrast the appearance and the attitude of satish's mother with that of the stranger woman.

Ans. While satish's mother was fat and imposing, the stranger woman had an aura of calm dignity that commanded respect. She was affectionate and sensitive to the need of Arun's she realized that he

might be hungry and there fore took him to the dining room to get him something to eat. On the other hand, Satish mother was patronizing and selfish. She was extremely suspicious of strangers. Arun had developed an instinctive dislike for her.

(v) What impression do you form about Arun?

Ans. Arun, a young boy of twelve, studies in a boarding school. He is self-confident and bold. He clearly distinguishes between the stranger and Satish's mother and rightly understands their contrasting qualities. He is very sensitive to affection and responds warmly. He has great regard for dignified elderly people.

(vi) The woman in a white sari was totally a stranger to Arun, but Arun developed an instant liking for her the moment she spoke to him. Mention four things that Arun liked of this woman.

Or

State any four reasons to explain why a bond had developed between Arun and the woman on platform 8.

Ans. The woman in white sari was soft and kind to Arun. She had a dignity about her which commanded respect. There was a calmness on her face. She saw that Arun was alone and feeling bored. She took him to the station dining-room and offered him some refreshment. She took pleasure in watching Arun eat. She made him talk, but she did not ask him many questions. When satish's mother enquired about her she acted like Arun's mother. She stayed there till the train departed.

28.3 LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS :

(i) Imagine you are Arun. Prepare a speech (in about 200 words) to be delivered in the morning assembly on the topic 'Motherhood-the ideal State'. Recalling you strange encounter with the woman on platform-8.

Ans. **Respected teachers and dear friends !**

Today I am going to speak on the topic 'Motherhood - the ideal state'. Motherhood, is indeed a blissful state which transforms a woman into a very beautiful being as she looks after the needs of her child. Motherhood is associated with the qualities of motherly love, affection and concern for a child's well being. But, is it necessary to be a mother to be endowed with motherly qualities? No, really not... here I would like to relate my personal experience of an encounter with a stranger woman whom I met at platform 8 at Ambala station sometime ago.

I was alone and had to wait for a long-time for my train which was due at midnight. Seeing me alone, a woman dressed in white approached me. She had an aura of dignity and grace about her. She spoke to me affectionately. She asked me to come with her to eat something. At first I was both shy and suspicious, but her calm and graceful smile compelled me to go with her. She ordered tea, samosas and jalebies for me. She made me feel comfortable. She drew me out very well without being personal and inquisitive; soon we were talking like old friends. Then we returned to the platform. Suddenly, my class-fellow, Satish, came there with his mother. She was an imposing and arrogant lady. The stranger woman introduced herself as my mother. I don't know what made her do so, but I didn't object to it either as I didn't approve of the patronizing tone of my friend's mother. Moreover she had suspicious nature. She also kept complaining of one thing or the other. When the train arrived, satish's mother gave some small gifts to him and he bade her good-by. I looked at the stranger woman. Somehow, I could not betray her before my friend's mother. I kissed her and bade her good- bye addressing her as 'mother'. It was one of the most memorable days of my life. I can say that she is a true mother and I shall never be able to forget her all my life.

Thank you.

- (ii) After reaching School, Arun, in 'The woman on platform 8' decides to share his joy in meeting the woman on platform 8 with his mother. Imagine that you are Arun and write that letter.

Ans. Springdales Academy
Pathankot
15 November, 200X
Dear mother

I reached school safely and well in time. While waiting for the train I had a happy encounter which I would like to share with you. I was feeling lonely and bored. I tried to while away the time browsing at the bookstall, feeding stray dogs with broken biscuits and gazing at the railway track watching the coming and going of trains. It was the arrival of an angelic woman of about thirty, dressed in a plain white sari. The kind lady had a pale face and seemed poor. She had dark eyes but there was a dignity about her that commanded respect.

She had perhaps noted my loneliness and boredom. She asked me softly if I was alone. Initially felt somewhat suspicious of the stranger. But the simplicity of her dress, her deep soft voice and the calmness of her face reassured me. I told her my name. She asked to come with her and have something to eat. She took me by the hand. She told a coolie to look after my suitcase. Then she led me to the station dining room.

She ordered tea and snacks for me and enjoyed watching me eat. The encounter had little effect on my appetite. I ate as a hungry boy would. The food strengthened the bond between us and cemented our friendship. The affectionate motherly behaviors relieved my loneliness and depression.

On returning to platform 8, I found my class-fellow Satish with his mother. She appeared to be a total contrast to the woman in white sari. She was an imposing woman who more spectacles. I had taken an instinctive dislike to Satish's mother. She was haughty and insensitive. With her overbearing attitude, she complained of everything. She was suspicious of strangers and advised us to be careful of them. I did not like her advice. As soon as the train started, Satish bade good-bye to his mother. I kissed the stranger and calling her 'mother' and bade her good-bye.

Tours affectionately
Arun

- (iii) After reaching school, Arun decides to record his experiences and reaction of the encounter with a stranger woman on platform 8 of Ambala. Thinking yourself as Arun, write a diary page of his meeting the two woman at Ambala station Platform 8.

Ans. Monday, November 16, 200X

Yesterday while I was waiting at Ambala Railway Station for my train I had strange encounters on platform 8. As usual the train was late. I was waiting all alone and getting bored. I tried to while away the time browsing at the bookstall, feeding stray dogs with broken biscuits and gazing at the railway tracks watching the arrival and departure of trains.

Just then a kindly woman of about 30 came near me. She asked me if I was alone. She was plainly dressed, but had a dignity about her. She was very gentle, soft and kind in her enquiry about me. I felt impressed by her. She told a coolie to look after my suitcase. Then she took me to the station refreshment room. She ordered tea, snacks and sweets. She enjoyed seeing me enjoying the refreshment. Now I began to talk freely to her. She was extremely frightened when she saw a boy leap over the track beside which an engine was shunting. What a sympathetic and gentle heart she had!

Then my classmate, Satish, came with his mother. She had come to see Satish off. In her spectacles she looked imposing and haughty. She was harsh in tone and stem to look at. Her haughty and overbearing nature reflected her dominating attitude. Soon she began complaining about everything right from trains to strangers. She did not want to be contradicted by us. In a way she wanted to be

Obeded . She advised Satish and me to be careful while traveling and avoid strangers. I developed an instinctive dislike for her. How critical and insensitive she was! Satish was his usual self. He was friendly and cordial. He introduced me very proudly to his mother calling me one of his friends and the best bowler in the class.

- (iv) Imagine that you are Arun and you have reached school after your encounter with a stranger on platform 8 of Ambala station. Write a letter to your cousin, Sandra, telling her what happened at the platform and giving your reactions to the whole incident.

Ans. . Springdales Academy

Pathankot

18 November, 200X

Dear Sandra

You have always been warning me to beware of strangers. You used to preach that strangers are cheats who dupe innocent travelers by offering some intoxicants and then stealing away their luggage. Well, I had an interesting encounter with a stranger which disproved all your theories. I was waiting for the train at Platform 8 of Ambala Railway station. It was night and I was feeling lonely and bored. The train was late as usual. I was passing time watching the activities on the platform. Just then a kindly woman of about 30 came to me. She had a pale face and seemed poor. She had dark eyes. She was dressed in a simple, white sari, she asked me softly if I was alone. I felt impressed by her. She had a dignity about her that commanded respect. She took me to the Railway Refreshment room. She ordered tea and snacks and watched me with joy while I was eating. Her affectionate, motherly behavior relieved my loneliness and depression.

How delicate and soft-hearted she was! She was extremely frightened to see a boy leap over the rails across which an engine was shunting. Then my classmate Satish came with his mother. She was harsh in tone and stern to look at. I did not like her haughtiness, insensitiveness and an overbearing attitude. She complained of everything. She was suspicious of strangers and advised us to be careful of them. She took the lady in white sari to be my mother. That woman did act like my mother and said that I could travel alone. She didn't go until the train had come. When I had boarded the train, she took my hands into hers and smiled gently. I leaned out of the window and kissed her on the cheek. I bade her good-bye addressing her as 'mother'. I shall always cherish my encounter with her.

I do hope to see her again someday.

Yours affectionately

Arun

PRACTICE EXERCISE

1. Imagine you are Satish. You were quite impressed by the warm and dignified behaviour of Arun's mother . make a diary entry comparing her with your own mother.



READING COMPREHENSION



29.1 STEPS FOR COMPLETE COMPREHENSION:

- ◆ Skim once as rapidly as possible to determine the main idea before you look at the questions. Don't worry about words you don't know at this stage.
- ◆ Underline the words that you do not understand to facilitate a complete understanding of the passage. This will enable you to solve the vocabulary questions quicker.
- ◆ Look through questions carefully. You are advised to keep to the order in which the questions appear in the test paper. Read intensively the portion relevant to the answers.
- ◆ Concentrate on the vocabulary items and puzzle out the meaning of any words you don't know from the context.
Most passages require at least two readings.
- Before writing the answer, check the questions again to be sure you've really understood them.
- You must write complete sentences as answers.
- Answers must be relevant and to the point. If the question is for one mark given one point. If it is for two marks give at least two points unless specified differently in the paper.

29.2 STEPS TO FOLLOW IN SKIMMING FOR THE MAIN IDEAS:

- ◆ Read the title of the passage / poem carefully. Determine what clues it gives you as to what the passage / poem is about.
- ◆ Watch for key words like 'causes, 'results, 'effects, 'etc. Do not overlook signal words such as those suggesting controversy (e.g., 'versus, 'pros and cons'), which indicate that the author is planning to present but sides of an argument.
- ◆ Concentrate on the main ideas and ignore the details.

29.3 HOW TO APPROACH COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS:

1. The 'why' question
In the 'why' question you are required to give reasons, provide explanations and give evidence for an answer. It is essential therefore, to look out for word that show cause, effect and purpose in order to arrive at the answer. These words are:

- (i) Cause word; Cause words signal the cause or reason for an event or an action. These include:

Because	due to	as	since	owing to	on account of
In that	resulting from		for that reason		on the grounds that

(ii) Effect words; effect words signal the result of an event or an action. These include:

Consequently so as a result resulting in therefore
With the effect of

(iii) Purpose words ; purpose words indicate the reason for an event or an action. These include :

For so that so as to in order that for the purpose of
In order to

2. The inference question

In the inference question you are required to make a deduction or draw a conclusion based on the information given in the passage. Since these are not straightforward questions, it is essential therefore, to read between the lines for clues or hidden meanings. This can be done by understanding certain key words and phrases. At times, you can draw an inference only after reading the entire poem / passage.

3. The rephrasing question :

At times you are required to explain a word/phrase in your own words or substitute a word/phrase in the passage without altering its meaning. To do so it is essential to understand the word/phrase in its context. So it is essential to read carefully what comes before and after it/

4. Vocabulary :

When you read passage or a poem, you will come across words that are unfamiliar. However, you don't need to look up the meaning of every new word or expression that you come across. When you have finished reading the passage, try to understand the overall meaning of the passage. Try to guess the meaning of unfamiliar words/ expressions from the context. For this you need to look for clues in the text itself.