

CLASS - XII ENGLISH CORE (FLAMINGO)

Lesson 1- The Last Lesson

Short Questions

1. Give 2 reasons why Franz thought of running away and spending the day out of doors?
2. What was more tempting than the rule of participles?
3. What was the bulletin board famous for?
4. Describe the usual scene and how was it different that day?
5. Describe the appearance of the master M. Hamel that day?
6. What surprised Franz on entering the classroom?
7. What was the news that came as a thunderclap to Franz?
8. Do you think Franz was upset for not learning his French lessons during the whole year?
9. Give 3 reasons for the presence of villagers in the classroom on the day of the last lesson?
10. What role did the parents and teachers play for the children's neglect of French language?
11. What was the opinion of M. Hamel regarding French language?
12. Mention a characteristic each required of both from the teacher and the student for effective learning as portrayed in the text.
13. How does M. Hamel evoke feelings of patriotism in the class towards the end of the lesson?
14. Do you think the group of children in the classroom belonged to a heterogeneous age group? If yes substantiate with evidence from the text?

Long answer type questions

1. Political enslavement leads to an identity crisis Discuss with reference to the Last Lesson.
2. Though late the people in the story realized the value of their language. Do you agree? Justify your answer.
3. When you have sight you never realize the value of your eyes' how far is this true with the story 'The Last Lesson'?
4. Why does M.Hamel point his finger at the parents when he talks about education given to children?
5. Justify the aptness of the title..

POEM-1 MY MOTHER AT SIXTY-SIX

I

1. What does the poet compare her mother to?
2. How is the mother described in the poem?
3. What is the significance of 'all I said was' and 'all I did was'?
4. Could the poet bear her childhood fear and ache as she grew up?
5. How does she console herself and her mother?

- II.
1. Explain the expression of feelings of the poet throughout the poem
 2. What is the significance of the poem?
 3. Give examples of imagery given in the poem.

Lesson 2-The Lost Spring

Short Questions

1. Where does the author meet Saheb every morning?
2. What reason did Saheb give for not going to school?
3. Bring out the contrast drawn between his life in reality and the meaning of his name?

4. What reason does a person give for walking barefoot? What is the author's personal opinion regarding this reasoning?
5. Bring out the difference in the standard of living of the priests of the past and the present?
6. How does rag picking differ for an adult and for a child?
7. Why does the hole in the shoe not bother Saheb?
8. Was Saheb happy with the newfound job? If not, why?
9. Bring out the horrible condition within the glass blowing industry?
10. Describe the living condition in Firozabad?
11. Why does Mukesh's grandmother feel it a futile exercise for Mukesh to fight taking up the job in glass blowing industry?
12. Why are they reluctant to form into cooperatives?
13. What all things comprise the vicious circle from where there is no escape?
14. Why is daring a difficult task? What cheers the narrator while talking to Mukesh?
15. Why is Mukesh content to dream only of cars and not of planes?
16. Why are promises to the poor rarely kept?

Essays

1. Envisage the life Saheb and Mukesh would enjoy if they were freed? How would it be different from the present condition?
2. Bring out from the lesson the pathetic condition of children working in inhuman conditions?
3. Saheb has lost all the joy and freedom by working in the tea stall where he is no longer his own master. Do you think his decision was wise or could he have made a better choice? Or was it still better to leave him at rag picking where he was his own master?
4. Draw the similarities between the life of the rag pickers and the bangle makers as portrayed in Lost Spring

Lesson 3-Deep Water

Short Questions

1. Why the YMCA pool was considered safer when compared to Yakima River?
2. When did his aversion to water begin?
3. What was the misadventure that happened one day?
4. What strategy did he remember as he went down the water?
5. What effect did the drowning in the YMCA pool have on Douglas?
6. Why did he decide to have an instructor to teach him swimming?
7. What method did he adopt to overcome terror?
8. Bring out the significance of the 'yellow water' though he has specifically mentioned that the water was as clean and clear as the bathtub before experiencing drowning.

Essays

1. The childhood fear and the way he overcomes it brings about a deeper meaning to the readers. Bring out how the negative traits can be changed into positive traits with reference to the techniques used by Douglas?
2. The tenacity and determination on the part of Douglas helped him to shirk away the fear factor. Discuss.
3. 'All we have to fear is fear itself' How far is this true where Douglas is concerned?
4. How did the instructor build a swimmer out of Douglas?
5. How did Douglas conquer his fear of water?

Poem : AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CLASSROOM IN A SLUM

I Answer the following in 30-40 words:-

1. Which are the four examples the poet gives to prove the pathetic condition of the children in the slum?
2. How does the world of the slum children differ from the things that decorate the walls of the classroom?
3. What is the irony behind the donations in the classroom?
4. Why is Shakespeare called wicked?
5. 'Open-handed map -----it's world' Explain
6. Explain 'from fog to endless night'
7. Why is the word 'catacomb' used?
8. What is the danger that the poet foresees about the slum children?
9. What is the poet's request to the authorities?
10. What is the poet's wish?

LONG ANSWERS

Answer in 60-80 words;

1. How are the slum children described by the poet?
2. How is their world different from that of the rich?
3. What is the advice and the suggestions given by the poet about the slum children?

Lesson 4-The Rattrap

Short Questions

1. Why does the peddler feel that the whole world is a rattrap?
2. How did people usually treat the peddler and what made the crofter different?
3. Breach of trust is the worst crime one can commit? How is it true in the case of peddler?
4. How does the writer bring out the allegory in the lesson when the peddler is trapped in the forest?
5. What made the peddler respond to the name Nils Olof?
6. What made the ironmaster send his daughter to persuade the peddler?
7. What shows that Edla was very observant, quick and sharp by nature?
8. Why does Edla stop the peddler from going away though she knew that he was not the captain?
9. What trait of the daughter is brought out when her father talks about her being worse than a parson?
10. Safety and security is a distant dream even in one's own home. What makes the peddler safe and secure in the house of ironmaster?
11. What was Edla's X`mas gift to the peddler?
12. What was the peddler's gift to Edla?
13. Why does he sign in as the captain?

Essays

1. How were the two hosts' - the crofter and the ironmaster different from one another?
2. In what way does humour help us to sympathize with the peddler?
3. Is the reader relieved by the way the story ended. Justify your answer
4. The story Rattrap is highly philosophical. Discuss
5. The metaphor of Rattrap highlights human nature. Discuss

Lesson 8 – Going Places

Short Questions

1. Sophie flits from one dream to another. What trait of hers is brought out by this action?
2. What made her dissatisfied with her life?
3. The unknown things are always a fascination for human beings. How is it true in the case of Sophie?
4. When Geoff queried whether she told their father about meeting Danny Casey, why was she chastened?
5. Does father believe his daughter's encounter with Danny Casey? If not, why?
6. What made her heave a sigh of relief when she knew that Geoff had not divulged all what she said?
7. How has Geoff helped in developing her fantasy about Danny Casey?

Essays

1. Fantasy is a pleasant relief at times but at times it can take a serious turn, which may prove detrimental to mental growth. . Elucidate with reference to the text focusing on the negative impact of fantasizing?
2. Sophie aspires for a romantic touch in her relationship with Danny Casey. What is the root cause of her imagination running wild?
3. What in your opinion is the reason behind her weaving a fantasy, is it a crush for an ace footballer or is it the love for glamour of a celebrity, if not at least the glamour of a person associated with a celebrity. Elucidate

4. Keeping Quiet

1. What does the poet mean by keeping still?
2. In order to achieve stillness what are we to do?
3. The period of stillness would provide a peaceful world. Explain with reference to the text?
4. Why does the poet not want any 'truck with death'? How is inactivity and death different from stillness he is advocating?
5. Why do we threaten ourselves with death and what is the solution for this threat?
6. Nature is a great teacher. Discuss.

5. A Road Side Stand

1. What was the purpose of the stand?
2. What phrase shows the pride of the villagers? Explain.
3. What protects the cities from being faded in ignominy
4. What are the complaints made by the polished city dwellers?
5. What are the things that are kept for sale?
6. What is the complaint of the poet?
7. Why do the villagers ask for the city money in their hands?
8. What is the false promise made to the villagers?
9. Why are the city dwellers called 'greedy good doers and beneficent beasts of prey'?
10. What is the significance of the grim picture drawn by economy and statistics?
11. What does non-responsiveness to issues bring forth in the life of villagers?
12. Bring out what the poet envisages for the village folk?
13. Bring out the different poetic devices used by the poet?
14. How does the poet bring out the imbalance in society through this poem?

Lesson 1. The Third Level

1. What according to the psychiatrist was a 'waking dream wish fulfillment'?
2. Why did the psychiatrist feel that Charley wanted to escape from this world?
3. What was Charley's temporary refuge from reality? What does the author mean by this?
4. How did Charley discover the third level?
5. Why does Charley feel that Grand Central is growing like a tree?
6. Why did Charley feel that Grand Central was an 'exit' a means of escape? Does this thought have any relevance to his escapade?
7. Why did Charley hide his thoughts that the Grand Central station had always been an exit ---a means of escape from his psychiatrist friend?
8. What differences did Charley find on the third level?
9. What kind of life did the people lead in 1894 in Galesburg?
10. Why was Charley not bothered about the premium that he had to pay to get old currency?
11. Why does Charley think that Sam would not find a job in Galesburg in 1894?

Long Questions

1. Do you feel that Charley really had been on the third level or was it just a medium of escape?
2. The writer has mentioned time and again about Charley's tendency to seek temporary refuge in the world of stamps as well as his dissatisfaction with the world around him. Is this the reason for Charley to discover the third level or was it sheer chance that made him discover the third level?
3. Charley seeks temporary refuge in his imagination of the third level. Discuss.
4. Discuss the importance of the presence of the psychiatrist in the lesson

Chapter 2. The Tiger King

1. What was the secret the astrologers had to reveal? How did they behave when compelled to speak the truth?
2. What incredible matter took place in the court? Why has this been compared to bulletins issued by the war office?
3. What justification did the tiger king give before he started out on tiger hunt?
4. Did the maharaja relent to the demands of the English officer? What did he do?
5. Why did tiger population become extinct in his kingdom?
6. Why did the king decide to get married? How far was the marriage successful?
7. What was the important factor that was considered for his marriage?
8. Once the maharaja decided to exempt a village from paying taxes, which he changed later on, and levied double tax on the village. What does this speak about the king?
9. "I have killed the hundredth tiger. My vow have been fulfilled"-was the Tiger King's vow really fulfilled? What happened on that day?
10. Why was the Maharaja not in a position to gift a real tiger to his son?
11. How did the death of the Tiger King take place?
12. Why does the author say the hundredth tiger took its final revenge?

Long Questions

1. The story 'Tiger King' reflects 'the whims and fancies of people in power' Elucidate.
2. Tiger king shows the general behaviour of people towards animals. People like the tiger king are responsible for making some of creatures' endangered species. Express your views.
3. A person like the Tiger King does not believe that in this universe there is equal place for all living creatures. It is a world created by the rich and the powerful to live the way they want. The author brings out this simple truth through this political satire "Tige

Chapter 3. Journey to the End of the Earth

1. How does the author describe the Antarctica?
2. How did the author feel on reaching the Antarctica?
3. How was the world different six hundred million years ago?
4. "To visit Antarctica now is to be a part of that history"-which history does the author refer to?
5. Why do people lose all earthy sense of perspective and time in the Antarctica?
6. How has man managed to increase global warming?
7. Why should one go to Antarctica to study the earth's past, and future?
8. How has Antarctica been able to retain its 'pristine' nature?
9. What is the aim of the programme students on ice?
10. "it was nothing short of a revelation everything does indeed connect"-what does the author refer to?

Long Questions.

1. The earth teaches us that if we take care of the small things big things will be taken care of. Explain this with reference to the "Antarctica"
2. We have been successful in increasing the global temperature. What are the consequences?
3. Why is Antarctica the place to go to unearth the mysteries surrounding human life?
4. Why does Tishani Doshi say that the youth have the idealism and strength to do a lot to save the earth?
5. Justify the title 'Journey to the End of the Earth'

Chapter 4 -The Enemy

1. What did Dr. Sadao's father tell him showing the islands visible from seashore?
2. What was his father's chief concern?
3. Why was Sadao not sent abroad with the troops?
4. Why didn't Dr. Sadao show his interest in Hanna before knowing that she was a Japanese?
5. Why did Dr. Sadao hesitate to go to the American professor's house?
6. Why did Dr. Sadao & his wife discover on the seashore.
7. Though, a doctor why did Dr. Sadao & his wife hesitate a moment to help the bleeding & seriously injured man?
8. What did they think would be the best & the kindest thing to do for the injured man?
9. What made the doctor concerned that he was an American soldier?
10. What was the final decision taken by the doctor?
11. Why did they think of handing over the man to the police?
12. . Why did Hanna hesitate to put the injured soldier on his deceased father in law's bed?
13. What made Dr Sadao attend to the injured soldier
14. Why did Dr Sadao decide to operate on the prisoner of war?
15. "What was the reaction of the servants? Can it be justified?
16. What thoughts came to Hanna's mind when she was washing the wounds of the soldier?
17. This man" he thought there is no reason under heaven why he should live." What prompted Dr. Sadao to say this? What does he do after this?
18. What impression do you form of General Takima?
19. What happened on the seventh day, after the doctor and his wife saved the wounded man?
20. What did General Takima tell Dr. Sadao when he heard about the prisoner war?
21. Why did the general assure Dr. Sadao that he would not be arrested?
22. What did general decide to do with enemy?
23. Why do you think Sadao could not sleep properly after his meeting with the General?
24. Why did Sadao stop Hanna from going to the prisoner's room?

25. How did Sadao help the prisoner to escape?
26. What did Sadao reply when the prisoner thanked him for saving his life?
27. Why do you think Dr. Sadao was unable to kill the American?
28. General Takima forgot what he had assured Dr. Sadao. What does it say about his character?
29. What impression do you form of the prisoner?
30. What are the twomoral implications on which the whole story is built upon ?

Long Questions

1. Dr. Sadao proves himself to be a good human being. He rises above the demarcation made by man. Elucidate
2. The enemy brings out that human qualities are more important in lives than our social obligations .It is in fact the victory of humanity in the moment of crisis. Discuss.
3. Dr Sadao was a true patriot –discuss.
4. Hanna proved to be a real support to Dr Sadao–explain
5. Justify the title The Enemy.

Chapter 5. Should Wizard Hit Mommy

1. What was the regular routine of Jack in the evening and for Saturdays?
2. What were the special features of the stories created by Jack?
3. Why didn't other animals play with Roger Skunk?
4. Is there any autobiographical element in the story created by Jack?
5. What was the observation made by Jo about God? What does it speak about her?
6. Why didn't Jack like to be interrupted by Jo?
7. What did the wizard tell Roger Skunk to do?
8. Why did Roger Skunk's mother dislike the new smell? What does it reveal about mothers' in general?
9. What did Roger's mother ask him to do?
10. How did Jo want the story to end?
11. There is difference in opinion about the ending of the story of Roger Skunk. What does John Updike want to say through this story?
12. Why did Jack feel trapped?
13. What picture of Jack do you form from this story?

Long Questions

1. The story "Should wizard hit mommy?" deals with a problem, which is very relevant today. Elucidate.
2. Jack though gave time to his children does not prove himself to be an ideal father. –Discuss
3. Jo though very young voices her own opinion. What impression do you form of the children of today?
4. Justify the significance of the title Should wizard hit mommy