

MPBSE Class 12th English - 2023 Question Paper with Solutions

Time Allowed :3 Hour | Maximum Marks :80 | Total Questions :15

General Instructions

Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them:

1. Attempt all questions.
2. Read the instructions carefully.
3. Marks allotted to each question are indicated against it.

1.

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below:

The Gita is not an aphoristic work; it is a great religious poem. The deeper you dive into it, the richer the meanings you get. It being meant for the people at large, there is pleasing repetition. With every age, the important word will carry new and expanding meanings. But its central teaching will never vary. The seeker is at liberty to extract from this treasure any meanings he likes so as to enable him to enforce in his life the central teaching.

Nor is the Gita a collection of do's and don'ts. What is lawful for one may be unlawful for another. What may be permissible at one time, or in one place, may not be so at another time, and in another place. Desire for fruit is the only universal prohibition. Desire lessness is obligatory.

The Gita has sung the praises of knowledge, but it is beyond the mere intellect. It is essentially addressed to the heart and capable of being understood by the heart. Therefore the Gita is not for those who have no faith. The author makes Krishna say:

"Do not entrust this treasure to him who is without sacrifice, without devotion without the desire for this teaching and who denies Me. On the other hand those who will give this precious treasure to My devotees will by the fact of this service assuredly reach Me. And those who, being free from malice, will with faith absorb this teaching, shall, having attained freedom, live where people of true merit go after death."

1.

(i) The Gita is _____

- (1) an aphoristic work
- (2) a great religious poem
- (3) a patriotic song
- (4) a great novel

Correct Answer: (2) a great religious poem

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the context.

The passage describes the Gita as a great religious poem that gets richer as one delves deeper into it, with its central teaching remaining consistent.

Quick Tip

The Gita is considered a philosophical and religious text rather than a mere aphoristic work.

1.

(ii) **The Gita is important for _____**

- (1) The old people
- (2) The children
- (3) Every age, the people at large
- (4) The young people

Correct Answer: (3) Every age, the people at large

Solution:

Step 1: Analyzing the passage.

The passage mentions that the Gita is meant for everyone, especially the people at large, as it carries new and expanding meanings with every age.

Quick Tip

The Gita is not restricted to a specific age group but appeals to all people, regardless of age.

1.

(iii) **What do you understand by do's and don'ts in the extract?**

- (1) Work that should be done
- (2) Work that should be observed
- (3) Work that should not be done
- (4) Work that should be done and work that should not be done

Correct Answer: (4) Work that should be done and work that should not be done

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the concept.

In the passage, 'do's and don'ts' refer to the actions that one should and should not take, emphasizing that actions can differ based on time, place, and context.

Quick Tip

The concept of do's and don'ts is about differentiating between permissible and impermissible actions based on various circumstances.

1.

(iv) According to Krishna, the Gita is only for those _____

- (1) Who have faith
- (2) Who have no faith
- (3) Who have truth
- (4) Who have no truth

Correct Answer: (1) Who have faith

Solution:

Step 1: Analyzing Krishna's statement.

Krishna states that the teachings of the Gita are for those who have faith, as the Gita is a spiritual text that requires belief and trust to be fully understood.

Quick Tip

Faith is a core requirement for understanding spiritual texts like the Gita, as it opens the mind to deeper insights.

1.

(v) Opposite word of 'Malice' is _____

- (1) Criticism
- (2) Ill-will
- (3) Good will
- (4) Hatred

Correct Answer: (3) Good will

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the opposite.

'Malice' means ill-will or hatred, so its opposite would be 'Good will,' which signifies kindness and positive intentions towards others.

Quick Tip

To find the opposite of a word, consider its emotional or conceptual counterpart.

1.

(vi) Give the word from the passage that gives the meaning of 'Compulsory.'

- (1) Aphoristic
- (2) Religious
- (3) Obligatory
- (4) Permissible

Correct Answer: (3) Obligatory

Solution:

Step 1: Identifying the word.

The passage uses the word 'obligatory' to refer to something that is compulsory, something that must be done or is required.

Quick Tip

'Obligatory' is commonly used to indicate something that is mandatory or required.

1.

(vii) Give the verb form of the word 'Prohibition.'

- (1) Prohibit
- (2) Prohibiting
- (3) Prohibited
- (4) Prohibitively

Correct Answer: (1) Prohibit

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the verb form.

'Prohibit' is the verb form of 'prohibition,' meaning to forbid or prevent something.

Quick Tip

To find the verb form, look for the action associated with the noun, as in the case of 'prohibit' from 'prohibition.'

1.

(viii) Give the antonym of 'Poorer.'

- (1) Deeper
- (2) Richer
- (3) Taller
- (4) Shorter

Correct Answer: (2) Richer

Solution:

Step 1: Identifying the antonym.

'Poorer' refers to a state of having less wealth or resources. The opposite is 'richer,' meaning having more wealth.

Quick Tip

To find antonyms, look for words that express opposite meanings in terms of quantity or quality.

1.

(ix) The Gita is capable of being understood _____

- (1) By ear
- (2) By brain
- (3) By heart
- (4) By eyes

Correct Answer: (3) By heart

Solution:

Step 1: Analyzing the passage.

The Gita is described as being understood by the heart, indicating that it requires spiritual and emotional understanding, not just intellectual analysis.

Quick Tip

Spiritual texts like the Gita often require deep emotional and heartfelt understanding, not just intellectual reasoning.

1.

(x) In the given passage, what is the only universal prohibition?

- (1) Desire for fruit
- (2) Desire for work
- (3) Desire for result
- (4) Desire for aim

Correct Answer: (1) Desire for fruit

Solution:

Step 1: Analyzing the prohibition.

The passage mentions that 'Desire for fruit' is the only universal prohibition, meaning that attachment to the outcomes of actions is what must be avoided.

Quick Tip

Desire for the results of actions can lead to attachment and suffering; hence, it is considered a universal prohibition.

1.

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below:

Coal is a natural resource which constitutes approximately 85 percent of the total fossil fuel reserves in the world. The coal deposits of India occur in two distinct stratigraphic horizons: Gondwana and its territories. Gondwana coal contributes about 99% of the country's coal resources. These mines are located in peninsular India, in the South Eastern quadrant, bound by the 78°E longitude and the 24°N latitude, thus, leaving a major part of the country devoid of any coal deposits. The major Gondwana coalfields are represented by isolated basins, which occur along prominent present day rivers such as Damodar, Koel, Sone, Mahanadi, Pench and Godavari. The relatively minor resource of tertiary coal is located on the either extremities of peninsular India.

Coal can be broadly classified in two categories - coking and non-coking. Coking coal are those which have coking property and which is used in metallurgical industries. Again depending on the quality of coke produced by this coal, it is sub-divided into prime coking coal, medium coking coal, and semi-coking coal. Similarly, non-coking coal is also categorized in seven grades (Grade A to G), depending on its calorific value.

1.

(i) Make notes on the above passage in points.

Solution:

Step 1: Identifying the key points in the passage.

- Coal constitutes 85- The coal deposits of India occur in Gondwana and other regions.
- Gondwana coal contributes 99- Major coal mines are located in the South Eastern quadrant of India.
- Gondwana coalfields are represented by isolated basins along major rivers like Damodar and Koel.
- Tertiary coal resources are found on the extremities of peninsular India.
- Coal is classified into two categories: coking and non-coking coal.
- Coking coal is used in metallurgical industries and is further divided into prime, medium, and semi-coking coal.
- Non-coking coal is categorized into seven grades based on calorific value.

Quick Tip

When making notes, focus on key facts, figures, and classifications that are central to the passage.

1.

(ii) Give a suitable title to the passage.

Solution:

Step 1: Analyzing the content.

The passage discusses the importance of coal as a natural resource in India, its major deposits, classifications, and its role in various industries.

Step 2: Suggesting a title.

A suitable title for this passage could be **"Coal Resources in India"** or **"The Role of Coal in India's Economy."**

Quick Tip

A good title should capture the essence of the passage and summarize its primary topic or focus.

3.

You are Abraham John, the secretary of your school's Science Club. A Science exhibition is being organized in your school. Write a notice for the school notice board inviting projects and models from the students. The exhibition is to be held on 28 February.

OR

Your father has been transferred to another city. You want to sell certain household goods. Design a suitable advertisement to be published in a local newspaper.

Solution:

1. Notice for Science Exhibition:

NOTICE

Science Exhibition – Invitation for Projects and Models

Date: 15th February 2025

The Science Club of [Your School's Name] is organizing a Science Exhibition on 28th February 2025. We invite all students to submit their innovative projects and models for the exhibition. Students are requested to bring their projects to the school hall by 27th February for display.

All interested students must submit their names and project topics to the Science Club Secretary, Abraham John, by 25th February.

Come and showcase your creativity!

Abraham John
Secretary, Science Club

2. Advertisement for Selling Household Goods:

ADVERTISEMENT

FOR SALE: Household Goods – Moving Sale!

Due to relocation, we are selling various household items, including furniture, electronics, kitchenware, and decor. All items are in good condition and available at reasonable prices.

Interested buyers can contact us at [Phone Number] or visit us at [Address] between 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM.

Hurry, everything must go by 30th February!

Quick Tip

For a notice, use formal language and keep it concise. In advertisements, ensure to include clear details like items for sale, contact information, and urgency.

4.

You are Anuj Dubey. Write a letter to your friend describing a recent exciting cricket match in which your team won.

OR

Last month you bought a digital camera from Modern Electronics, Jabalpur. Now you find something wrong with it. It is not working properly. Write a letter to the dealer complaining about the problem.

Solution:

1. Letter to Friend Describing a Cricket Match:

[Your Address]
[City, Postal Code]
[Date]

Dear [Friend's Name],

I hope this letter finds you in the best of health and spirits. I just had to tell you about the thrilling cricket match we played last weekend. Our team played against [Opponent's Name] and it was an exciting match from start to finish!

We were chasing a total of 180 runs, and it seemed tough at first. However, [Player's Name] played an extraordinary knock of 70 runs, which brought us closer to victory. The final few overs were intense, and the entire team was on edge. But with some brilliant shots from [Another Player's Name], we managed to win by 5 wickets!

I cannot describe the joy we felt. It was a well-deserved win, and the entire team was ecstatic! I'm sure you would have enjoyed it as much as I did.

I look forward to hearing from you soon. Take care and stay safe!

Yours lovingly,
Anuj Dubey

2. Complaint Letter Regarding a Faulty Camera:

[Your Address]
[City, Postal Code]
[Date]

To,
The Manager,
Modern Electronics,
Jabalpur.

Subject: Complaint Regarding Faulty Digital Camera

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to express my dissatisfaction with the digital camera I purchased from your store last month. The camera, [Model Number], which I bought on [Date], is not functioning properly. Despite several attempts to use it, the camera fails to focus properly and the battery drains rapidly.

I request that the camera be either repaired or replaced as soon as possible. I have attached a copy of the purchase receipt for your reference. Please let me know how soon this issue can be resolved.

I look forward to your prompt action in this matter.

Sincerely,
[Your Name]

Quick Tip

In informal letters to friends, feel free to express emotions and excitement. In formal complaint letters, always be polite and precise in explaining the issue.

5.

You are Sonia Nigam. While watching a news channel covering a rally of "Green peace Activists". Write an article for a newspaper on 'It's worth, Saving the Earth'.

OR

Write a paragraph in about 200 words on 'whether the study of three languages at school is necessary or not.'

Solution:

1. Article on Saving the Earth:

Title: It's Worth, Saving the Earth

The Earth is facing unprecedented challenges today, from climate change and deforestation to pollution and loss of biodiversity. The "Green Peace Activists" rally highlights the urgent need to protect our planet and raise awareness about environmental issues. Saving the Earth is not just the responsibility of governments, but of every individual. By adopting sustainable practices, reducing waste, and conserving resources, we can make a significant impact.

The rally calls for greater action in reducing carbon emissions, transitioning to renewable energy sources, and conserving forests. Every effort, no matter how small, counts in protecting our natural heritage. We must act now before it's too late. The future of our children depends on the actions we take today to preserve the Earth.

It's worth saving the Earth, for it is the only home we have. Together, we can build a healthier, greener future.

2. Paragraph on Necessity of Studying Three Languages:

In today's globalized world, learning multiple languages is more important than ever. The study of three languages at school helps students develop cognitive skills and cultural awareness. It allows them to communicate with people from different regions and backgrounds, making them more adaptable in a diverse society. However, some argue that studying three languages can put unnecessary pressure on students and may take time away from other essential subjects. Nevertheless, the ability to speak multiple languages opens up opportunities for better career prospects and deeper cultural understanding.

In my opinion, the study of three languages is necessary, as it equips students with vital communication skills and helps them become global citizens, ready to engage with the world in meaningful ways.

Quick Tip

When writing articles, ensure a strong introduction, body, and conclusion. For paragraphs, maintain focus and clarity while discussing both sides before concluding.

6.

Fill in the blanks choosing the correct option: (any five)

(1) The temple is _____ the middle of the river.

- (1) on
- (2) in

- (3) into
- (4) at

Correct Answer: (2) in

Solution:

The correct option is "in" because the temple is located within the middle of the river. "In" is used when something is inside a place or a bounded area, which applies here.

Quick Tip

Use "in" to describe something inside a defined space, like a location or area.

(2) Let's go to _____ market where my father has put up a stall.

- (1) a
- (2) an
- (3) the
- (4) no article

Correct Answer: (3) the

Solution:

The correct answer is "the" because we are referring to a specific market that both the speaker and listener are aware of. The definite article "the" is used to refer to a particular, known place.

Quick Tip

Use "the" when referring to something specific that both the speaker and listener know about.

(3) The boy _____ the bird almost every day.

- (1) catch
- (2) catches
- (3) catching
- (4) caught

Correct Answer: (2) catches

Solution:

The correct answer is "catches" because the sentence refers to an action that happens regularly (every day). In the present simple tense, the verb must be in its base form for third-person singular subjects (he, she, it).

Quick Tip

For third-person singular subjects, use the base verb form with an "s" at the end, e.g., "catches."

(4) I think it _____ rain today.

- (1) may
- (2) must
- (3) can
- (4) can't

Correct Answer: (1) may

Solution:

The correct answer is "may" because it indicates possibility. "May" is used to express uncertainty or a possibility of something happening in the future.

Quick Tip

Use "may" to express possibility or uncertainty about something happening.

(5) There are _____ precious books in the library.

- (1) much
- (2) any
- (3) some
- (4) each

Correct Answer: (3) some

Solution:

The correct answer is "some" because we are talking about a countable quantity of books in the library. "Some" is used to express an unspecified quantity in affirmative sentences.

Quick Tip

Use "some" when referring to an unspecified quantity of something in affirmative sentences.

(6) We are going _____ a match today.

- (1) playing
- (2) to play
- (3) played
- (4) play

Correct Answer: (2) to play

Solution:

The correct answer is "to play" because it follows the verb "going," and "going to" is used to indicate future plans or intentions.

Quick Tip

When talking about plans or intentions, use "to" after the verb "going."

(7) My friend lives _____ New Delhi.

- (1) in
- (2) at
- (3) into
- (4) on

Correct Answer: (1) in

Solution:

The correct answer is "in" because we use "in" when referring to large cities or areas. "In" is used for geographical locations like cities and countries.

Quick Tip

Use "in" to refer to locations like cities, countries, or large areas.

7.

Do as directed: (any five)

(1) He is too weak to stand.

[Rewrite using "so that"]

Solution:

The sentence can be rewritten as:

He is so weak that he cannot stand.

Quick Tip

When using "so... that," it shows a cause and effect relationship. "So" expresses a degree, and "that" introduces the result.

(2) The child cried for milk.

[Change into past continuous tense]

Solution:

The sentence in past continuous tense would be:

The child was crying for milk.

Quick Tip

For past continuous tense, use the structure "was/were + verb-ing."

(3) (a) He gets his salary.

(b) He starts spending it.

[Combine using 'No sooner than']

Solution:

The combined sentence using "No sooner... than" would be:

No sooner does he get his salary than he starts spending it.

Quick Tip

Use "No sooner... than" to show that one action immediately follows another.

(4) Raju / write / can / either / with / hand.

[Rearrange the words and make a sentence]

Solution:

The correct sentence after rearranging the words is:

Raju can write with either hand.

Quick Tip

When rearranging words, focus on subject-verb-object order, and ensure the sentence makes sense.

(5) (a) Sita does not sing.

(b) She does not dance.

[Combine the sentences using 'neither nor']

Solution:

The combined sentence using "neither... nor" is:

Neither Sita sings nor dances.

Quick Tip

"Neither... nor" is used to combine two negative actions or statements.

(6) Mr. Gupta teaches us Hindi.

[Change the voice]

Solution:

The sentence in passive voice is:

We are taught Hindi by Mr. Gupta.

Quick Tip

To change the voice, identify the subject, object, and verb, and then invert their positions according to passive voice rules.

(7) If they do not work properly, they will be punished.

[Rewrite using ‘unless’ in place of ‘If’]

Solution:

The sentence using ”unless” would be:

Unless they work properly, they will be punished.

Quick Tip

”Unless” is used to mean ”if not” and expresses a condition that must be met to avoid something.

8.

Read the following extract carefully and answer the questions given below:

It had happened when I was ten or eleven years old. I had decided to learn to swim. There was a pool at the Y.M.C.A. in Yakima that offered exactly the opportunity. The Yakima river was treacherous. Mother continually warned against it, and kept fresh in my mind the details of each drowning in the river. But the Y.M.C.A. pool was safe. It was only two or three feet deep at the shallow end; and while it was nine feet deep at the other, the drop was gradual. I got a pair of water wings and went to the pool. I hated to walk naked into it and show my skinny legs. But I subdued my pride and did it.

1.

Name the author of the above extract.

- (1) Anees Jung
- (2) William Douglas
- (3) Louis Fischer
- (4) A.R. Barton

Correct Answer: (2) William Douglas

Solution:

The extract is from the autobiography of William Douglas, titled "A Man and the Sea." It details his experiences with swimming and his fear of water.

Quick Tip

When asked for the author of an extract, focus on the content, themes, and style to determine the correct author.

2.

According to the extract, what is the name of the river?

- (1) Easton
- (2) Y.M.C.A.
- (3) Yakima
- (4) Ellensburg

Correct Answer: (3) Yakima

Solution:

According to the extract, the name of the river mentioned is "Yakima." The narrator refers to the Yakima river being treacherous.

Quick Tip

Pay attention to geographical locations or names mentioned in the passage, as they may be the correct answer.

3.

The author speaks about the misadventure when he was -

- (1) 10-Year-Old
- (2) ten or eleven years old
- (3) nine years old
- (4) three years old

Correct Answer: (2) ten or eleven years old

Solution:

The extract mentions that the author was "ten or eleven years old" when the event occurred. This shows the age when the author first tried to swim.

Quick Tip

Look for the specific age or timeframe mentioned in the extract to determine the correct answer.

4.

Find a word from the extract which means "Dangerous".

- (1) gradual
- (2) treacherous
- (3) deep
- (4) shallow

Correct Answer: (2) treacherous

Solution:

The word "treacherous" in the extract means "dangerous." The author describes the Yakima river as "treacherous," meaning it was unsafe or hazardous.

Quick Tip

When looking for synonyms or meanings, focus on words that describe negative traits or conditions. "Treacherous" refers to something dangerous.

5.

Synonyms of 'gradual' -

- (1) gentle
- (2) sage
- (3) deep
- (4) hate

Correct Answer: (1) gentle

Solution:

The word "gentle" is a synonym for "gradual" in this context. "Gradual" refers to something happening slowly or in a smooth, gentle manner.

Quick Tip

Synonyms are words with similar meanings. In this case, "gentle" reflects the gradual process mentioned in the passage.

9A.

Read the following extract carefully and answer the questions given below:

*Yes, in spite of all
Some shape of beauty moves away the pall
From our dark spirits. Such the sun, the moon.
Trees old, an young, sprouting a shady boon
For simple sheep; and such are daffodils
With the green world they live in; and clear rills.*

1.

What moves the pall away from our dark spirits?

- (1) Any shape of beauty
- (2) Daffodils
- (3) Green world
- (4) Dooms

Correct Answer: (1) Any shape of beauty

Solution:

The correct answer is "Any shape of beauty" because the poet mentions that some shape of beauty, such as the sun, moon, trees, or daffodils, can lift the gloom or "pall" from our spirits. The idea is that beauty has the power to uplift our mood.

Quick Tip

Look for phrases in the extract that directly answer the question by referring to the source of the effect.

2.

What does the poet mean by 'green world'?

- (1) Green forest
- (2) Daffodils green surroundings
- (3) Green house
- (4) Green walls

Correct Answer: (2) Daffodils green surroundings

Solution:

The correct answer is "Daffodils green surroundings" because the poet mentions "green world," which refers to the natural, lush environment where daffodils and other plants thrive. The "green world" symbolizes nature and life around us.

Quick Tip

Pay attention to the context of the phrase and related images in the poem that help clarify its meaning.

3.

Which of the following poetic devices has been used in 'Shady boon'?

- (1) Imagery
- (2) Alliteration
- (3) Metaphor
- (4) Personification

Correct Answer: (3) Metaphor

Solution:

The correct answer is "Metaphor." The phrase "shady boon" is a metaphor because it compares something beneficial (a boon) to the shade provided by trees, linking two different concepts to imply that nature provides a protective, beneficial gift.

Quick Tip

Metaphors directly compare two different things to create a deeper meaning without using "like" or "as."

9B.

Read the following extract carefully and answer the questions given below:

Sadao knew that his education was his father's chief concern. For this reason he had been sent at twenty two to America to learn all that could be learned of surgery and medicine. He had come back at thirty, and before his father died he had seen Sadao become famous not only as a surgeon but as a scientist. Because he was perfecting a discovery which would render wounds entirely clean, he had not been sent abroad with the troops. Also, he knew, there was some slight danger that the old General might need an operation for a condition for which he was now being treated medically, and for this possibility Sadao was being kept in Japan.

1.

What was the Chief Concern of Dr. Sadao's father?

- (1) Dr. Sadao's education
- (2) Dr. Sadao's treatment
- (3) Dr. Sadao's marriage
- (4) Dr. Sadao's children

Correct Answer: (1) Dr. Sadao's education

Solution:

The chief concern of Dr. Sadao's father was his education. The passage clearly mentions that his father was concerned with Sadao's education, leading him to send Sadao to America to learn surgery and medicine.

Quick Tip

Focus on keywords in the extract like "chief concern" to directly link the answer to the appropriate part of the passage.

2.

At what age did Dr. Sadao go to America?

- (1) Thirty
- (2) Twenty two

- (3) Twenty
- (4) Thirty two

Correct Answer: (2) Twenty two

Solution:

Dr. Sadao went to America at the age of twenty two, as mentioned in the passage. His father sent him to America to learn surgery and medicine.

Quick Tip

Look for specific age or time references in the text, as these can directly answer questions about time and events.

3.

Why was Dr. Sadao sent to America?

- (1) To learn surgery and medicine
- (2) To learn scientific activities
- (3) To learn about wounds
- (4) For further studies

Correct Answer: (1) To learn surgery and medicine

Solution:

Dr. Sadao was sent to America to learn surgery and medicine. The passage specifically states that he was sent to America to learn everything that could be learned in these fields.

Quick Tip

Look for explicit reasons mentioned in the passage, such as educational or professional objectives.

4.

Find the word from the extract which is opposite of "Fraction".

- (1) Army
- (2) Unit
- (3) Troop

(4) Group

Correct Answer: (4) Group

Solution:

The word "group" is the opposite of "fraction." A group refers to a whole or complete set, while a fraction refers to a part or portion of something.

Quick Tip

In many contexts, the opposite of a part (fraction) is a whole or collective entity (group).

10.

Answer the following questions in about 30 words: (any five)

(1) What did Franz notice that was unusual about the school that day?

Solution:

Franz noticed that the school was quieter than usual that day. The usual noise and activity were missing, and the classroom was oddly silent, which was unusual for a normal school day.

Quick Tip

Look for specific signs or observations made by the character in the passage to understand the unusual situation.

(2) What makes the city of Firozabad famous?

Solution:

Firozabad is famous for its glass-blowing industry. The city has a long-standing tradition of making beautiful glass bangles, a skill passed down through generations.

Quick Tip

Focus on the significant features or industries mentioned in the passage that define a city or location.

(3) How did the instructor 'build a swimmer' out of Douglas?

Solution:

The instructor "built a swimmer" out of Douglas by making him practice swimming through slow, deliberate steps. He first made Douglas get used to the water and gradually helped him gain confidence.

Quick Tip

Look for progressive steps or stages in the narrative that describe how someone is trained or improved.

(4) Why was the crofter so talkative and friendly with the peddler?

Solution:

The crofter was talkative and friendly with the peddler because he was alone and looking for someone to share his story with. He welcomed the company of the peddler and shared his life experiences.

Quick Tip

Characters may exhibit talkative behavior due to isolation, loneliness, or a need for companionship. Pay attention to such details in the story.

(5) Why do you think the servants thought Gandhi to be another peasant?

Solution:

The servants mistook Gandhi for another peasant because of his simple attire and humble demeanor. Gandhi did not carry the typical signs of authority or wealth, so the servants assumed he was just another common man.

Quick Tip

When analyzing character interactions, observe how appearance and behavior shape the way other characters perceive them.

(6) Subbu is described as a many-sided genius. List two of his special abilities.

Solution:

Two of Subbu's special abilities were his talent in painting and his skill as a performer. He was known for his multifaceted talents that extended beyond just his artistic abilities.

Quick Tip

Look for phrases in the passage that highlight a character's strengths or special qualities, especially when they are described in multiple dimensions.

(7) Why didn't Sophie want Jansie to know about her story with Danny?

Solution:

Sophie didn't want Jansie to know about her story with Danny because she feared that Jansie would not understand or believe her. Sophie was afraid of being judged or not taken seriously.

Quick Tip

Characters may withhold information due to fear of judgment or rejection. Look for emotional or psychological reasons for their secrecy.

11.

Answer the following questions in about 30 words: (any three)

(1) Why are the young trees described as 'springing' in the poem 'My Mother at Sixty-Six'?

Solution:

The young trees are described as "springing" to convey a sense of life, growth, and vitality. The word suggests energy and renewal, in contrast to the frailty of the speaker's mother.

Quick Tip

When describing nature in poetry, verbs like "springing" are used to symbolize vitality, freshness, and the passage of time.

(2) What will counting up to twelve and keeping still help us achieve?

Solution:

Counting up to twelve and keeping still helps us calm the mind and gain control over our emotions. It provides a moment of peace and mental clarity, allowing us to reflect.

Quick Tip

Meditation or mindfulness techniques often involve counting and stillness to help control the mind and emotions.

(3) What makes human beings love life in spite of troubles and sufferings?

Solution:

Human beings love life because of their innate resilience and hope. Despite suffering, they are driven by the desire to experience joy, love, and the beauty of existence.

Quick Tip

Resilience, hope, and the pursuit of happiness are fundamental aspects that help people cope with life's challenges.

(4) What is suggested by the image 'massive weight of uncle's wedding band'?

Solution:

The image of the "massive weight of uncle's wedding band" suggests the burden of commitment and responsibility in marriage. It symbolizes the weight of familial expectations and life's emotional ties.

Quick Tip

Metaphors like "massive weight" convey emotional or psychological burdens associated with significant life events, such as marriage.

12.

Answer any two of the following questions in about 30 words:

(1) What will the Maharaja do to find the required number of tigers to kill?

Solution:

The Maharaja will send his men into the jungle to track and count the tigers. He will ensure that the right number of tigers are located for him to kill, as per his needs.

Quick Tip

Look for actions described in the passage that show how a task is completed or a goal is achieved.

(2) What are the indications for the future of humankind?

Solution:

The indications for the future of humankind suggest that humanity will continue to face challenges, but it will also adapt and evolve. The future depends on human choices and technological advancements.

Quick Tip

Look for broader statements or predictions made in the text that reflect the outlook for the future.

(3) What will Dr. Sadao and his wife do with the man?

Solution:

Dr. Sadao and his wife will care for the man, providing medical treatment. They will help him recover and make sure he is safe, despite the complications involved in treating an enemy soldier.

Quick Tip

Focus on actions that show compassion, responsibility, and moral decisions made by the characters involved.

13.

Answer the following questions in about 75 words: (any two)

(1) What could be some of the reasons for the migration of people from villages to cities?

Solution:

Some of the reasons for migration from villages to cities include the search for better job opportunities, higher wages, access to better education, healthcare, and a higher standard of living. Cities offer more facilities and infrastructure, leading people to leave rural areas in hopes of a better future. Additionally, the growth of industries and urbanization has created more work prospects, encouraging people to migrate.

Quick Tip

Migration is often driven by factors such as economic opportunities, better quality of life, and access to urban amenities.

(2) How did Douglas overcome his fear of water?

Solution:

Douglas overcame his fear of water by gradually confronting it. After his initial traumatic experience, he worked with an instructor who patiently taught him how to swim. The instructor's consistent encouragement and the slow, step-by-step approach helped Douglas gain confidence. Eventually, with practice, he was able to face his fear and swim across the pool. This was a long process of overcoming mental barriers and building physical skill.

Quick Tip

Overcoming fear requires both mental resilience and systematic, step-by-step actions to confront the issue directly.

(3) How do we know that ordinary people too contributed to the freedom movement?

Solution:

We know that ordinary people contributed to the freedom movement through their active participation in protests, strikes, and boycotts. They played a significant role in spreading nationalistic ideas and supporting leaders. Historical records show that men and women, from

all walks of life, worked together to fight colonial rule. Farmers, workers, and students joined hands with political leaders in the struggle for independence, showing that it was a mass movement.

Quick Tip

The participation of everyday people is crucial in movements for social or political change, especially when their collective actions shape history.

14.

Answer any one of the following questions in about 75 words:

(1) Why is 'grandeur' associated with the 'mighty dead'?

Solution:

The 'mighty dead' are associated with 'grandeur' because of their significant contributions to society, culture, or history. Their greatness and influence continue to echo in the world even after their death. The legacy of their actions, ideas, and sacrifices elevates them to a stature that commands respect and admiration. The word "grandeur" signifies the enduring power and nobility that these individuals impart to posterity, long after they are gone.

Quick Tip

Look for the emotional tone or symbolism in the passage that reflects respect or reverence for past figures.

(2) What symbol from nature does the poet invoke to say that there can be life under apparent stillness?

Solution:

The poet invokes the symbol of a 'seed' to suggest that life can exist under apparent stillness. Just as a seed remains dormant in the soil yet contains the potential for growth, life can persist even when not immediately visible or active. This symbol represents the idea that life is not always outwardly visible, but can thrive quietly, waiting for the right moment to emerge.

Quick Tip

Look for natural symbols like seeds, roots, or silence in poetry that symbolize hidden or dormant life forces.

15.

Answer any one of the following questions in about 75 words:

(1) Do you think that the third level was a medium of escape for Charley? Why?

Solution:

Yes, the third level was a medium of escape for Charley. He was overwhelmed by the stress and pressures of his modern life. The third level, representing a simpler time in the past, provided him with a refuge from his anxieties. Charley found comfort in the peacefulness of the old-world setting, which allowed him to disconnect from the chaos of his daily life. The third level was his way of escaping reality.

Quick Tip

Look for emotional reasons behind a character's actions to understand why they might seek escape or comfort in certain situations.

(2) What is it that draws Derry towards Mr. Lamb in spite of himself?

Solution:

Derry is drawn to Mr. Lamb despite his initial resistance because Mr. Lamb's positive attitude, wisdom, and acceptance of Derry's appearance provide him with a sense of comfort and understanding. Mr. Lamb does not judge Derry for his physical disfigurement, and his kind, open nature helps Derry feel more at ease. This draws Derry in, as he finds someone who truly sees beyond his outer appearance.

Quick Tip

Pay attention to the interactions between characters and how one person's kindness or acceptance can break down emotional barriers in another.