

UP Board Class 10 English - 817 (BM) - 2025 Question Paper with
Solutions

Time Allowed :3 Hours	Maximum Marks :70	Total questions :35
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General Instructions

Instruction:

- i) All questions are compulsory. Marks allotted to each question are given in the margin.
- ii) In numerical questions, give all the steps of calculation.
- iii) Give relevant answers to the questions.
- iv) Give chemical equations, wherever necessary.

Q1. Read the following passage carefully and choose the correct option to answer the questions that follow:

There is a great affinity between trees and men. We grow at much the same pace, if we are not hurt or starved or cut down. In our youth we are resplendent creatures, in our declining years we stoop a little, we remember, we stretch our brittle limbs in the sun, and then with a sigh, we shed our last leaves. Mehmmod was like the banyan, his hands gnarled and twisted like the roots of the ancient tree. Ali was like the young mimosa planted at the end of the courtyard. In two years, both he and the tree would acquire the strength and confidence of their early youth.

1. According to the passage, men are in great affinity with:

- (A) Animals
- (B) Trees
- (C) Trains
- (D) Birds

Correct Answer: (B) Trees

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Passage:

The passage describes the relationship between trees and men, comparing their growth, aging, and life cycle. It suggests that trees and men share similar experiences, such as growing, aging, and declining in the later years of life.

Step 2: Conclusion:

The passage clearly draws a direct affinity between men and trees. Mehmmod is compared to the banyan tree, and Ali is compared to the mimosa tree. Therefore, the correct answer is that men share an affinity with trees.

Final Answer:

The correct answer is (B) Trees.

Quick Tip

In reading comprehension, focus on the key comparisons made in the passage. In this case, the affinity between men and trees was central to the question.

Q2. Who is compared with the banyan tree?

- (A) Ali
- (B) Mimosa
- (C) Mehmmod
- (D) None of these

Correct Answer: (C) Mehmmod

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Passage:

The passage directly compares Mehmmod with the banyan tree. The comparison is made in the context of their age, strength, and the passage of time.

Step 2: Conclusion:

The correct answer is (C) Mehmmod, as he is the one compared to the banyan tree in the passage.

Final Answer:

The correct answer is (C) Mehmmod.

Quick Tip

In reading comprehension, carefully note the specific comparisons or metaphors used in the passage.

Q3. What is the meaning of resplendent?

- (A) Bright

- (B) Dull
- (C) Black
- (D) Lazy

Correct Answer: (A) Bright

Solution:

Step 1: Definition of 'Resplendent':

The word "resplendent" means shining brilliantly or being bright and splendid.

Step 2: Conclusion:

Since "resplendent" means "bright", the correct answer is (A) Bright.

Final Answer:

The correct answer is (A) Bright.

Quick Tip

When encountering descriptive words, look for their meaning in the context to find the right answer.

Q4. We in the park in the evenings.

- (A) played
- (B) Play
- (C) had played
- (D) All are correct.

Correct Answer: (D) All are correct

Solution:

Step 1: Context of the sentence:

The sentence is in the past tense and describes an activity that happened in the past, thus the correct verb form is "played." The form "had played" can also be used as it

indicates an action completed before another event. "Play" is incorrect in this context, as it is present tense.

Step 2: Conclusion:

The correct answer is (D) All are correct, as all three options could technically work depending on the context.

Final Answer:

The correct answer is (D) All are correct.

Quick Tip

Pay attention to the tense and context of the sentence to decide which verb form fits best.

Q5. Savitri travels on foot. She is a

- (A) Traveller
- (B) Stickler
- (C) Disciplinarian
- (D) Pedestrian

Correct Answer: (D) Pedestrian

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the context:

The word "pedestrian" refers to someone who walks or travels on foot. It is the most appropriate term for Savitri, who travels on foot.

Step 2: Conclusion:

The correct answer is (D) Pedestrian, as it is the correct term for someone who walks.

Final Answer:

The correct answer is (D) Pedestrian.

Quick Tip

In questions related to occupations or habits, focus on the key activity described in the sentence to choose the most fitting term.

Q6. Rearrange the following word clusters to make a meaningful sentence: mother / children / her / loves / every

- (A) Children her loves every mother
- (B) Mother every her loves children
- (C) Every mother loves her children.
- (D) Children loves mother her every

Correct Answer: (C) Every mother loves her children.

Solution:

Step 1: Sentence formation:

The correct word order to form a meaningful sentence is "Every mother loves her children."

Step 2: Conclusion:

The sentence is grammatically correct and conveys the intended meaning.

Final Answer:

The correct answer is (C) Every mother loves her children.

Quick Tip

When rearranging words to form a sentence, always focus on subject-verb agreement and logical flow.

Q7. Which of the following words is mis-spelt?

- (A) Definition
- (B) Demonstration
- (C) Deficiency
- (D) Diligence

Correct Answer: (B) Demonstration

Solution:

Step 1: Check each word for spelling:

- "Definition" is correctly spelled. - "Demonstration" is spelled incorrectly. The correct spelling is "Demonstration." - "Deficiency" is correctly spelled. - "Diligence" is correctly spelled.

Step 2: Conclusion:

The mis-spelt word is "Demonstration."

Final Answer:

The correct answer is (B) Demonstration.
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Quick Tip

Check for common spelling errors or double-check words that seem similar to others.

Q8. Fill in the gap with a suitable preposition: My sister's birthday is
20th December.

- (A) in
- (B) into
- (C) on
- (D) onto

Correct Answer: (C) on

Solution:

Step 1: Preposition rules:

For dates, the preposition "on" is commonly used.

Step 2: Conclusion:

The correct preposition to use in this sentence is "on," as it is used with specific days or dates.

Final Answer:

The correct answer is (C) on.

Quick Tip

When referring to specific days or dates, always use "on" as the preposition.

Read the passage given below and choose the correct option to answer the questions that follow:

Marriage gifts are meaningless without the sweet bread known as the bol, just as a party or a feast loses its charm without bread. Not enough can be said to show how important a baker can be for a village. The lady of the house must prepare sandwiches on the occasion of her daughter's engagement. Cakes and bolinhas are a must for Christmas as well as other festivals.

Q9. A sweet bread is known as

- (A) mol
- (B) bread
- (C) bol
- (D) has

Correct Answer: (C) bol

Solution:

Step 1: Passage understanding:

The passage talks about the importance of a special bread called "bol" in various celebrations like weddings and festivals. It clearly mentions, "sweet bread known as the bol."

Step 2: Conclusion:

The correct term for the sweet bread mentioned in the passage is "bol."

Final Answer:

The correct answer is (C) bol.

Quick Tip

In reading comprehension, always refer back to the passage for direct references when answering specific details.

Q10. 10.Sandwiches must be prepared for the occasion of

- (A) Daughter's birthday
- (B) Daughter's engagement
- (C) Grandmother's birthday
- (D) Father's birthday

Correct Answer: (B) Daughter's engagement

Solution:

Step 1: Passage understanding:

The passage mentions, "The lady of the house must prepare sandwiches on the occasion of her daughter's engagement."

Step 2: Conclusion:

The correct answer is the occasion of "Daughter's engagement."

Final Answer:

The correct answer is (B) Daughter's engagement.

Quick Tip

Pay attention to specific keywords mentioned in the passage. They help identify the correct answer.

Q11. Who is Anne's long awaited friend?

- (A) Her pen
- (B) Her cat
- (C) Her diary
- (D) Her dog

Correct Answer: (C) Her diary

Solution:

Step 1: Passage understanding:

In the passage, Anne's long-awaited friend is her diary. This reflects Anne's strong bond with writing and how her diary serves as her trusted companion.

Step 2: Conclusion:

The correct answer is "Her diary."

Final Answer:

The correct answer is (C) Her diary.

Quick Tip

Always pay attention to the details in the passage to link the correct context with the answer choices.

Q12. What did Mandela learn about courage?

- (A) It is absence of fear
- (B) It is the triumph over fear

- (C) Both (A) and (B)
- (D) None of these

Correct Answer: (B) It is the triumph over fear

Solution:

Step 1: Passage understanding:

Mandela describes courage as not the absence of fear, but the triumph over it. This is a classic lesson from Mandela's philosophy about overcoming fear to achieve greatness.

Step 2: Conclusion:

The correct answer is that courage is the triumph over fear.

Final Answer:

The correct answer is (B) It is the triumph over fear.

Quick Tip

Pay attention to the subtle nuances in the description of abstract concepts like courage in the passage.

Q13. Where did Gautam Buddha vow to stay until his enlightenment?

- (A) His palace
- (B) Under a peepal tree
- (C) Under a banyan tree
- (D) On a mountain

Correct Answer: (B) Under a peepal tree

Solution:

Step 1: Passage understanding:

The passage refers to the specific location where Gautam Buddha chose to meditate under a peepal tree (often referred to as the Bodhi tree) until his enlightenment.

Step 2: Conclusion:

The correct answer is "Under a peepal tree."

Final Answer:

The correct answer is (B) Under a peepal tree.

Quick Tip

Familiarize yourself with key historical or religious references to better identify correct answers in reading comprehension passages.

(Q. Nos. 14 - 15) : Read the given extract and choose the correct option to answer the following questions : I sit inside, doors open to the veranda,

Writing long letters

In which I scarcely mention the departure

Of the forest from the house.

Q14. Who is the poet of the poem 'The Trees'?

(A) Robert Frost

(B) Walt Whitman

(C) Carl Sandburg

(D) Adrienne Rich

Correct Answer: (A) Robert Frost

Solution:

Step 1: Passage understanding:

The poem "The Trees" is famously written by Robert Frost. Recognizing key literary works and their authors helps in answering questions like these.

Step 2: Conclusion:

The correct answer is Robert Frost.

Final Answer:

The correct answer is (A) Robert Frost.

Quick Tip

When unsure about a poet or author, remember their famous works. In this case, "The Trees" is by Robert Frost.

Q15. The poet mentions about the departure of

- (A) Animals
- (B) Mountains
- (C) Birds
- (D) Forest

Correct Answer: (D) Forest

Solution:

Step 1: Passage understanding:

In the extract provided, the poet refers to the departure of the forest from the house. This is a direct reference to nature, specifically the forest.

Step 2: Conclusion:

The correct answer is the "Forest" because the poet speaks of the forest's departure.

Final Answer:

The correct answer is (D) Forest.

Quick Tip

Pay attention to the wording of the passage, especially when it speaks of nature or elements like animals, birds, or forests.

Q16. Who is Tricki?

- (A) A cat
- (B) A monkey
- (C) A dog
- (D) A rabbit

Correct Answer: (C) A dog

Solution:

Step 1: Passage understanding:

Tricki is a pet dog mentioned in the story. Understanding the context of the story helps in identifying Tricki as a dog.

Step 2: Conclusion:

Thus, the correct answer is (C) A dog.

Final Answer:

The correct answer is (C) A dog.

Quick Tip

In passage-based questions, look for specific clues in the text. Here, Tricki is clearly identified as a dog.

Q17. Max entered Ausable's room through the

- (A) balcony
- (B) roof
- (C) back door
- (D) main door

Correct Answer: (D) main door

Solution:

Step 1: Passage understanding:

The passage clearly mentions that Max entered through the main door. This clue directly helps in identifying the correct option.

Step 2: Conclusion:

Thus, the correct answer is (D) main door.

Final Answer:

The correct answer is (D) main door.

Quick Tip

Look for direct references in the passage. The words "entered through the main door" are a clear clue for this question.

Q18. Where did Griffin stay at Iping?

- (A) In an inn.
- (B) In a hut
- (C) In a temple
- (D) In a forest

Correct Answer: (A) In an inn.

Solution:

Step 1: Passage understanding:

Griffin stayed at an inn during his stay at Iping, which is clearly mentioned in the passage.

Step 2: Conclusion:

Thus, the correct answer is (A) In an inn.

Final Answer:

The correct answer is (A) In an inn.

Quick Tip

Always focus on keywords like "stay" or "location" mentioned in the passage to find the right answer.

Q19. Who is Laxmi?

- (A) Bholi's cow.
- (B) Bholi's teacher
- (C) Bholi's classmate
- (D) Bholi's mother

Correct Answer: (A) Bholi's cow.

Solution:

Step 1: Passage understanding:

Laxmi is Bholi's cow, as mentioned in the passage. Bholi's connection to Laxmi, her cow, is clearly explained.

Step 2: Conclusion:

Thus, the correct answer is (A) Bholi's cow.

Final Answer:

The correct answer is (A) Bholi's cow.

Quick Tip

When reading passages, focus on relationships and key characters that are mentioned.

Q20. What was the name of the shop in which Anil lived in a room?

- (A) Ruman Sweet shop

- (B) Brizwasi Sweet shop
- (C) Jumna Sweet shop
- (D) Krishna Sweet shop

Correct Answer: (C) Jumna Sweet shop.

Solution:

Step 1: Passage understanding:

The passage clearly mentions that Anil lived in a room above the Jumna Sweet shop.

Step 2: Conclusion:

Thus, the correct answer is (C) Jumna Sweet shop.

Final Answer:

The correct answer is (C) Jumna Sweet shop.

Quick Tip

Pay attention to locations and settings mentioned in the passage for accurate answers.

Part B

Q1. Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow:

The status of women depicts the social, economic and mental condition in a nation. Women have been regarded as a symbol of spirituality in many great books. Yet, they have been treated badly and unequally to men. Social evils such as dowry, sati-system, child marriage and female infanticide were widely prevalent in the early ages. The spread of education and self-consciousness among women has led to their progress over the period. Women of today are empowered. The female liberty is only achievable when people shift their restrictive attitudes and mindsets regarding women.

a) What do you understand by the word 'the status of women'?

Solution: The 'status of women' refers to the social, economic, and mental position of women in society. It highlights how women are viewed, treated, and valued in different

societies and cultures. The status of women has been shaped by historical, cultural, and social factors.

b) What are the social evils that women face?

Solution: The social evils that women face include dowry, child marriage, sati-system, and female infanticide. These practices have historically led to the mistreatment and subjugation of women in many societies.

c) How can women liberate themselves?

Solution: Women can liberate themselves by gaining education, raising self-consciousness, and challenging restrictive cultural norms and traditions. Shifting societal attitudes and promoting equality are also vital to women's empowerment.

d) Which word in the passage means 'intentional killing of infants or babies'?

Solution: The word in the passage that means 'intentional killing of infants or babies' is "female infanticide."

Final Answer:

The correct answers are:

- a) The status of women refers to their social, economic, and mental position in society.
- b) Social evils women face include dowry, child marriage, sati-system, and female infanticide.
- c) Women can liberate themselves through education, self-consciousness, and challenging restrictive norms.
- d) "Female infanticide" refers to the intentional killing of infants or babies.

Quick Tip

When answering comprehension questions, always relate the information in the passage to the context of the question.

Q. No. 2: Write an application to the District Magistrate regarding the problem of inadequate and contaminated water supply in your area.

(i) Application to the District Magistrate:

To,

The District Magistrate,

City Name

,

Date

Subject: Request for the Improvement of Inadequate and Contaminated Water Supply in My Area.

Respected Sir,

I am writing this application to bring to your attention the severe water supply issue that has been affecting our area for a considerable period. The water supply in our locality is both inadequate and contaminated. The residents, especially the elderly and children, are facing great difficulty in accessing clean and safe water for their daily use.

Despite the numerous complaints lodged with the local authorities, no effective solution has been provided, and the situation continues to worsen. The contaminated water poses serious health risks, and the lack of proper supply is making it increasingly difficult for the residents to carry out their daily activities.

I kindly request you to take immediate action to address this issue. It would be greatly appreciated if you could direct the concerned authorities to either improve the water supply or provide alternative measures to ensure clean and safe drinking water for all.

I look forward to your prompt intervention to resolve this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Your Name

Your Address

Your Contact Information

Quick Tip

In cases of inadequate services, it is important to provide clear details and request timely action from authorities.

OR

(ii) Letter to a Friend Inviting for Summer Vacation:

Date: [Insert Date]

Your Address

City, State

Dear [Friend's Name],

I hope this letter finds you in the best of health and spirits. As the summer holidays are just around the corner, I thought it would be a great idea if you could come and spend the vacation with me at my place.

The weather here is lovely, and I have planned many exciting activities for us. We could visit the nearby hill station, enjoy some local sightseeing, and relax by the riverbank. It will be a wonderful time to catch up and have fun.

I have already spoken to my parents about it, and they are very excited to have you here. You can stay with us for the entire vacation, and I promise you will have an amazing time. Please let me know if the dates work for you so that we can make all the necessary arrangements.

Looking forward to seeing you soon.

Yours lovingly,

Your Name

Quick Tip

When inviting a friend, ensure that you include a few details about the activities to make the invitation appealing and exciting.

Q. No. 3: Write an article on 'The Importance of Internet' in about 80 - 100 words.

Solution:

The Importance of Internet

The internet has become an essential part of our daily lives, connecting people across the globe and enabling instant communication. It plays a significant role in communication, social media, and business. Social media platforms like Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter have revolutionized the way we interact, while businesses benefit from the vast opportunities for marketing, sales, and customer service provided by the internet. Entertainment, including movies, music, and games, is more accessible than ever, thanks to the internet. Additionally, it enhances safety by providing access to vital information and emergency services. The internet continues to shape the world and is a key driver of innovation and growth in every sector.

Quick Tip

Be cautious while using the internet—ensure your personal information is secure, and always verify the reliability of sources you interact with online.

Or

Q. No. 3: Write a report on 'Blood Donation Camp' in about 80-100 words, keeping in mind the following points:

Solution:

****Report on Blood Donation Camp****

On 15th September 2025, a Blood Donation Camp was organized by the local Rotary Club at the community hall in Sector 23. The camp was set up from 9 AM to 3 PM, with a large number of people participating. Around 200 donors took part in the event, showing great enthusiasm to help save lives. The camp provided all necessary facilities and medical staff ensured safety and comfort for the donors. The message from the event was clear: "Donate Blood, Save Lives." It reminded everyone about the importance of donating blood and how it can make a difference in someone's life.

Quick Tip

Blood donation is a noble cause that can save lives. Ensure you are healthy before donating and always donate in safe environments.

Q. No. 4: a) Rewrite the following sentence by changing it into indirect speech : "The principal said to me, 'Why are you not taking your leave?'"

Solution: The principal asked me why I was not taking my leave.

b) Change the following into passive voice: "The students did not read the book."

Solution:

The book was not read by the students.

c) Punctuate the following: "what is the colour of your dress"

Solution:

What is the colour of your dress?

d) Translate the following into English:

"आज सोमवार है । मैं फ़िलाती ने फ़िज़ के दिन मुझे नये वस्त्र दिलाने का वादा किया । हम सभी शाम को बाज़ार जाएंगे । और मैं अपनी अमन-शांति वस्त्रों को भी खरीदूँगा ।"

Solution:

Today is Monday. I promise that I will buy new clothes for myself today. We all will go to the market in the evening. I will also buy peace and comfort items.

Quick Tip

When converting direct speech to indirect, remember to adjust the pronouns and tense as per the context. Always use proper punctuation while converting sentences.

Q. No. 5a.: Who helps Lencho and in what manner is he helped?

Solution:

In the story "A Letter to God," Lencho is helped by the postmaster and the people of the town. After Lencho writes a letter to God asking for money to repair his crops, the postmaster takes it upon himself to collect money from the townspeople. He is able to gather a significant amount of money, which is then sent to Lencho. Although the amount was less than what Lencho expected, it was enough to show him that people care and to alleviate his suffering to an extent. The collective effort of the town shows the strength of community solidarity, but Lencho still remains angry with God for not sending the exact amount he asked for.

Quick Tip

In stories based on helping others, the role of community support is essential. Consider how the characters' trust in others plays a crucial role in the development of the plot.

OR

Q. No. 5 a.(Alternative): How does the thief think, Anil will react to the theft?

Solution:

In the story "The Thief's Story," the thief, Hari Singh, believes that Anil will not react to the theft. He thinks Anil is a kind-hearted person who will not notice the money has been stolen. Hari Singh assumes that Anil is not the type to question or accuse

him, thus he believes he can easily escape without consequences. However, as the story unfolds, the thief learns that Anil had already known about the theft and showed trust in him, leading to a change in Hari's attitude.

Quick Tip

When answering questions about character behavior, consider the motivations behind their actions and how they perceive others' reactions.

Q5. (b): How did Buddha teach Kisa Gotami the truth of life?

Solution:

In the story of Kisa Gotami, Buddha teaches her the fundamental truth of life by using a simple but profound lesson. After Kisa Gotami loses her child, she seeks Buddha's help to bring him back to life. Buddha, seeing her grief, asks her to go and find a mustard seed from a house that has never experienced death. Kisa Gotami goes door to door, but finds that every house has experienced death in some form. Realizing that death is a universal experience and that everyone suffers from loss, Kisa Gotami understands the truth of life: death is inevitable, and all beings must face it.

Quick Tip

Buddha's teaching method often relied on simple, relatable examples to convey deep truths about life and suffering, making complex concepts easier to understand.

OR

Q5. (b) (Alternative): What made Valli sad on her return journey?

Solution:

On her return journey in the story of "The Journey of the Train," Valli, who was a young girl, felt immense joy when she had managed to travel on the bus to see the

city. However, as she returned, her happiness was overshadowed by the realization that she could never again experience the same excitement of the journey. She was struck by the sadness that, despite her adventure, the experience had come to an end. The reality of growing up, the finality of the journey, and the realization that life continuously moves forward without turning back made her sad.

Quick Tip

Valli's experience reflects the bittersweet nature of life's moments: as we grow, we sometimes feel the sadness of the passing of time and lost opportunities.

Q6. (a): How did Anne finally stop Mr. Kessing from punishing her?

Solution:

Anne Frank, a young and witty girl, had a special way of handling the punishment she received from her teacher, Mr. Kessing. Initially, he punished her for talking in class by assigning her essays to write. Anne cleverly stopped Mr. Kessing from punishing her by writing an amusing essay in which she humorously discussed the behavior of talking in class. She also used humor to win him over, describing how it was difficult to stay silent and how talking was natural for young children. Impressed by her writing and wit, Mr. Kessing finally stopped punishing Anne.

Quick Tip

Anne's use of humor and clever writing not only saved her from punishment but also highlighted her intelligence and creative approach to conflict.

Or

Q6. (b): Give a character sketch of Echo.

Solution:

Echo, a character from Greek mythology, was a nymph known for her beauty and enchanting voice. She was a talkative and lively figure who fell in love with Narcissus. However, due to a curse by Hera, she could only repeat the words of others, unable to speak her own. Echo's deep love for Narcissus turned tragic when he rejected her advances, and her constant longing for him led to her demise. She faded away, leaving only her voice to echo in the mountains, forever repeating the words she once heard. Echo represents unrequited love and longing, making her story a symbol of yearning and loss.

Quick Tip

Echo's tragic love story serves as a powerful reminder of the consequences of unrequited love and the yearning for something unattainable.

Q7. (a): How will 'Ice' be as grace and suffice for causing the end of this world? Do you agree with the poet?

Solution:

In Robert Frost's poem "Fire and Ice", the poet describes two possible ways the world could end — one through fire, symbolizing passion and desire, and the other through ice, symbolizing hatred and indifference. The poet suggests that both emotions are strong enough to bring about the end of the world. Ice, in this context, represents coldness, emotional detachment, and indifference.

Frost asserts that if the world ends in ice, it will be caused by human hatred, which can be just as destructive as the passionate fires of desire. While fire consumes everything in its path with intense fervor, ice gradually freezes the emotions, leading to an eventual death of empathy and warmth, which is equally as destructive.

I agree with the poet's view that ice can indeed cause the end of the world, as hatred and indifference erode human connections, leading to the collapse of society.

Final Answer:

Ice, representing hatred, can indeed bring about the end of the world by destroying human comp
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Quick Tip

Frost uses the metaphor of fire and ice to represent the contrasting forces of human emotions — passion and hatred — both of which have the potential to destroy the world.

OR

Q7. (b): Write four lines of any poem prescribed in your syllabus.

Solution:

Here are four lines from the poem *"The Road Not Taken"* by Robert Frost:

Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,
And sorry I could not travel both
And be one traveler, long I stood
And looked down one as far as I could
To where it bent in the undergrowth;

These lines are significant as they reflect the theme of choices in life. The speaker is confronted with two different paths, symbolizing the decisions we make in life. This poem emphasizes the consequences of choices, as once a path is chosen, there's no turning back.

Final Answer:

The poem reflects on the choices we make in life, symbolized by the two diverging roads.
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Quick Tip

"The Road Not Taken" is a metaphor for life's decisions, showing that each choice leads to a different outcome, and often we never know what would have happened if we had chosen differently.

Q8. Write the central idea of any one of the following poems (in about 40 - 50 words):

(a) The Trees:

Solution:

The central idea of *The Trees* by Adrienne Rich revolves around the growth of trees as a metaphor for personal and societal change. The poem highlights how trees, which are typically stationary and rooted, can be seen as symbols of freedom and potential. The trees' growth and the ultimate breaking of their branches from the confines of the forest serve as a symbol of breaking free from the limitations imposed by society and nature.

(b) The Ball Poem:

Solution: The central idea of *The Ball Poem* by John Berryman is the theme of loss and the process of coming to terms with it. In the poem, the boy loses his ball, which symbolizes childhood, innocence, and possession. The poem explores how the boy learns to accept loss as part of life, symbolizing the broader human experience of loss, grief, and growing up.

(c) The Tale of Custard the Dragon:

Solution: The central idea of *The Tale of Custard the Dragon* by Ogden Nash is the theme of bravery and the misconception of strength. The poem tells the story of Custard, a seemingly cowardly dragon, who proves his courage when he saves the family from a threat. The poem challenges the notion of bravery and shows that true courage is not always what it seems on the surface.

Final Answer:

Each poem explores distinct themes: nature and freedom in *The Trees*, loss and acceptance in

Quick Tip

Each poem uses a simple narrative to express profound emotional and philosophical ideas. Focus on the symbolic elements in each poem for a deeper understanding of their messages.

Q9. Answer any one of the following in about 30 - 40 words:

(a) Why does Mrs. Pumphrey wring her hands?

Solution: Mrs. Pumphrey wrings her hands due to deep anxiety and worry over her dog, Tricki. She becomes emotionally distressed when Tricki falls ill, and her constant indulgence and care for him exacerbates his condition. This leads to her feeling helpless, further triggering her anxious behavior.

Quick Tip

Both Mrs. Pumphrey's anxiety and Sulekha's stammering are examples of how stress and psychological pressures manifest physically.

(b) Why did Sulekha start stammering?

Solution: Sulekha started stammering as a result of anxiety and fear. Her psychological pressure and self-consciousness when speaking led to the development of a speech impediment. This behavior is tied to her inability to express herself freely in front of others, reflecting her inner stress.

Quick Tip

Understanding these behaviors helps in recognizing the need for emotional support and care.

Q10. Answer any one of the following in about 60 words:

(a) Describe the whole treatment of Tricki in detail.

Solution: Tricki, Mrs. Pumphrey's pet dog, was initially overweight due to overfeeding, especially with rich food. When Tricki's condition worsened, Mrs.

Pumphrey called the doctor, who suggested that Tricki be kept on a strict diet and exercise regimen. The doctor then took Tricki to his clinic, where the dog was kept under proper care, leading to significant improvement in Tricki's health.

(b) Why do Bholi's parents accept Bishamber's marriage proposal?

Solution: Bholi's parents accept Bishamber's proposal because of his social status and wealth. Despite his being handicapped and old, they believe that Bholi, who has a scarred face and is considered an unattractive girl, should marry someone of his social standing. They fear that no other marriage proposal will come for her.

Final Answer:

Bholi's treatment involved strict dieting and care, while her parents accepted Bishamber's propo
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Quick Tip

Bholi's parents' decision reflects the social pressures and expectations that influence marriage proposals in traditional settings. Similarly, Tricki's treatment shows the importance of proper care and attention to health.