

SECTION C –LITERATURE

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?

Essays

1. Political enslavement leads to an identity crisis Discuss with reference to the Last Lesson.

2. Do you think either the students or the teacher sincere in their task till the day of the last lesson? Substantiate with evidence from the text?
3. When you have sight you never realize the value of your eyes' how far is this true with the story 'The Last Lesson'?

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. Do you think the child labour law should be enforced? If the child labour law is enforced approximately how many rag pickers and how many bangle makers

would be freed from Seemapuri and Firozabad? 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.

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. 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 5 - Indigo

Short Questions

1. What was the positive quality about Rajkumar Shukla? How did he benefit from this quality?
2. What proves that Gandhiji was an unknown figure in Patna?
3. Why were the government servants scared to be acquainted with a person like Gandhiji?

4. What was the first instance of achieving freedom from fear by the peasant community?
5. What made the lawyers shamefaced before Gandhiji?
6. Narrate how the civil disobedience became a triumph for the first time?
7. Why did Gandhiji agree to 25% refund when the actual demand was for 50%?
8. What qualities was he able to make in the Indians by the Champaran episode?
9. Why did he feel that help from the foreigner Mr Andrews was unnecessary?
10. Why does he entrust teachers rather than politicians to make changes in the society?

Essays

1. To think differently is a challenging job but ultimate victory comes to those who are not the usual run of the mill. In what way is this true of Gandhiji in the lesson Indigo?
2. “Freedom from fear is more important than legal justice for the poor” how does he bring home this point in this lesson? State whether Indians have attained freedom from fear even in this post independence era-justify your answer?
3. What are the qualities of a good leader as portrayed by Gandhiji in the lesson Indigo?

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

Poetry 1 - My Mother At Sixty Six

1. What did the mother look like? What made the poet feel so?
2. What did she realize with pain?
3. How did she take her mind off the thought?
4. What does 'sprinting of trees' and 'spilling of children' refer to'?
5. Bring out the contrast portrayed by the scene outside with the state of the poet's mother.
6. Why is the mother compared to 'a late winter's moon'?
7. What is the childhood fear of the poet
8. Though filled with negative thoughts in her mind, outwardly what did the poet reflect? Substantiate your point from the words /phrases from the poem.

2. An Elementary School Classroom In A Slum.

1. The poem begins on a very potent simile about the children's faces. Explain.
2. Bring out the powerful imagery presented in the first stanza depicting despair and disease
3. Why does the poet use 'rat's eye' for the 'paper seeming boy'?
4. Describe the powerfully telescopic image drawn by the picturisation of a sick boy.
5. Why is the class described referred to as 'dim'?
6. Do you agree that the poet has dealt with a universal theme? How far has he succeeded in depicting the role of every individual towards development of the underprivileged?

7. Where does the sweet and young boys' mind wander? What does it show?
8. What are the things that adorn the walls of the classroom? Why does it have no significance to the children?
9. Why is the 'window' depicted as the world of the children?
10. Why is their world far from river capes and star of words?
11. Why is Shakespeare wicked and maps a bad example?
12. What picture comes to your mind with the phrases 'slag heap' and 'skin peeped through by bones'?
13. Why is the mended glass referred to as 'bottle bits of stones'?
14. Explain: "so blot their map with slums"
15. Why is the slum referred to as 'catacombs'?
16. What is the significance of the white and green leaves?
17. What can create history?
18. Bring out the various poetic devices used by the poet to drive home the point
19. How far does he succeed in presenting an allegorical representation of haves and have-nots?

3. A Thing Of Beauty

1. In what way is a thing of beauty a joy forever?
2. Even though life is filled with sufferings what gives us the urge to go on and how?
3. What are the different sufferings drawn by out by the poet?
4. Name the objects of beauty
5. How does art and Literature inspire man?
6. What is picturised as an immortal drink? What makes it outstanding?
7. Nature acts as a buffer against all the pain and sufferings .In what manner has God provided it to man?

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.

6. Aunt Jennifer's Tigers

1. Justify the title 'Aunt Jennifer's Tigers'
2. Why is uncle's wedding band heavy on Jennifer's hand?
3. What are the characteristics of the tiger depicted in the poem?
4. How does the poet imply the point that art survives the artist?
5. Though aunt Jennifer is a representative of women fighting against masculine authority and power what is the implication of creating a tiger that is extremely masculine and authoritative?

Supplementary Text-

Vistas

Chapter 2. The Tiger King

1. What do you understand by "threat of a Stuka bomber"?
2. What was the secret the astrologers had to reveal? How did they behave when compelled to speak the truth?
3. When did everyone stand transfixed in stupefaction'?
4. What incredible matter took place in the court? Why has this been compared to bulletins issued by the war office?
5. How was the tiger king brought up? Does the author suggest anything through this?
6. What justification did the tiger king give before he started out on tiger hunt?
7. Why did the astrologer say that he would cut off his hair?
8. Why does he mention of becoming an insurance agent in particular?
9. Did the maharaja relent to the demands of the English officer? What did he do?
10. Why did tiger population become extinct in his kingdom?

11. Why did the king decide to get married? How far was the marriage successful?
12. What was the important factor that was considered for his marriage?
13. 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?
14. “I have killed the hundredth tiger. My vow have been fulfilled”-was the Tiger King’s vow really fulfilled? What happened on that day?
15. Why was the Maharaja not in a position to gift a real tiger to his son?
16. How did the craftsman fool the king?
17. How did the death of the Tiger King take place?
18. 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 “Tiger King” Elucidate.

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 did the 'rite' seem futile?
4. Why didn't other animals play with Roger Skunk?
5. Is there any autobiographical element in the story created by Jack?
6. What was the observation made by Jo about God? What does it speak about her?
7. Why didn't Jack like to be interrupted by Jo?
8. What did the wizard tell Roger Skunk to do?
9. Why did Roger Skunk's mother dislike the new smell? What does it reveal about mothers` in general?
10. What did Roger's mother ask him to do?
11. How did Jo want the story to end?

12. There is difference in opinion about the ending of the story of Roger Skunk. What does John Updike want to say through this story?
13. Why did Jack feel trapped?
14. 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`

Chapter 6. On The Face Of It

Short Questions

1. What impression did Derry have when he entered Mr. Lamb’s garden?
2. Why does Derry say, “People are afraid of me?”
3. What did Derry have bitter feelings about other people?
4. What does Derry tell Mr. Lamb when he asked him about his face?
5. What opinion do you form of Mr. Lamb when he says “why is one green growing plant called a weed and another a flower”?
6. What similarity does Mr. Lamb find between him and Derry?
7. Why Mr. Lamb is called `lamey lamb?`
8. “It’s not what you look like it’s what you are inside”- what do you understand from this statement?
9. “It was so cruel”. What does Derry refer to?
10. Why does Mr. Lamb tell Derry that if he went back he would never return?
11. How did Mr. Lamb lose his leg?
12. What does Mr. Lamb tell Derry when he says that he does not like being with other people?

13. Why does Derry say “if I don’t go back there I’ll never go anywhere in this world”?
14. What did Derry find when he returns to Mr. Lamb?

Long Questions

1. “Its not what you look like that matters but its what you are inside” how does the author bring out the truth of this statement through the play On The Face Of It?
2. `On the face of it` highlights the pains and conflicts on one hand and on the other it also shows that physically challenged people can cope with their disability. Elucidate
3. Mr. Lamb is successful in changing Derry’s mindset. How did it become possible?
4. Society is indifferent to the needs of the physically challenged; rather people are cruel to them. Express your views with reference to “On the face of it”.
5. Justify the significance of the title `On the face of it.`

Chapter 7. Memories of Childhood

1. What gave no peace to Zitkala Sa?
2. What does the writer mean by “my spirit tore itself in struggling for its freedom”?
3. How were the Indian girls dressed?
4. Why did the author feel embarrassed in the dining room?
5. Why did the author start to cry when the others were busy eating in the dining room?
6. What was the warning given to the author by her friend?
7. Why did the author object to get her hair cropped?
8. What did Zikala do to avoid cutting her hair short?
9. How did the author feel when her hair was cut short?

Long Question

1. “No, I will not submit! I will struggle first! I answered” what does the author want to say through these words?

2. Zitkala Sa indeed fought before falling a prey to exploitation. How did she put up a brave fight?
3. “For now I was only one of many little animals driven by a herder” when did Zitkala Sa say this and why?

We Too Are Human Beings

Short Questions

1. What does Bama say about untouchability at the onset of the story?
2. What are the things, which did not allow Bama to reach home early?
3. When Bama saw the old man carrying a parcel in a peculiar manner she found it comical. Was it really something comical?
4. How did Bama feel when her brother told her the actual reason for the old man to carry the parcel in a special manner?
5. Which thought infuriated Bama?
6. What did Bama feel would be the right thing for them to do?
7. What had a deep impression on Bama?
8. What did she do when she came to know the reality of casteism?

Long Question

1. How did Bama come to know that casteism existed in society?
2. When Bama understood and realized that being born into a particular caste could bring with it untouchability, how did she react and what did she resolve to do?

Chapter 8. Evans Tries an O Level

Short Questions

1. What was the unusual request received from the Oxford prison by the secretary of the examination?
2. Why they decide to help Evans?
3. What kind of track record did Evans have?
4. Why did Mr. Jackson call Evans ‘scruffy and what did that remind them to do?
5. Why did Evans want to keep his hat?

6. How was Reverend Stuart Mcleery dressed when he came to the jail to invigilate? What did Mcleery carry with him?
7. Why did the governor bug Evans's cell?
8. Which object in Mcleery's suitcase puzzled Jackson?
9. How does the coyness of Evans help the governor remove the guards from the room?
10. What had actually happened to the real Mcleery?
11. Why does the governor say that Evans would not be with them the next September?
12. Who has the last laugh in the lesson? Justify.
13. According to you who all might have helped Evans in his escape?

Long Questions

1. The whole government machinery is used by Evans to escape. Discuss the corrupt system used by Evans to succeed in his mission.

Or

How did Evans manage to take the whole machinery for a ride?

2. Justify the title "Evans tries an O` level"
3. The governor, who looked into the intrinsic details and went to the extent of bugging the exam room, is literally taken for a ride what could be the reason and how could he have stopped this escape?
4. In spite of Evans being a prisoner the readers have their sympathy with him rather than with the governor. Discuss.