

## **POETRY: IN THE BAZAARS OF HYDERABAD**

### **1. How does the Sarojini Naidu capture the essence of the vibrant bazaars in Hyderabad?**

Answer: Goldsmiths make wristlets, anklets and rings. They also make gold girdles for dancers and gold scabbards for kings, as well as bells, to be fastened to the feet of pigeons. Girdles are waist adornments worn by dancers, while scabbards are sword cases used by emperors to keep their swords safe.

Wristlet, anklet, rings, girdles for dancers, scabbards for the king, and bells for the feet of blue pigeons. These bells were as delicate as the wings of a dragonfly. The poet wanted to express the delicacy of the bells, therefore, the use of expression 'frail' in the poem.

Goldsmiths make all these golden ornaments and jewellery for Indians who enjoy wearing them and want to earn good money.

### **2. Can you think of a reason why the musicians and magicians are paired together in one stanza? Elaborate on your answer.**

Answer: Sarojini Naidu offers a vivid description of the characteristics of the goods that are sold in the bazaars of Hyderabad by different traders and vendors. Among the variety of vendors and pedlars were also present musicians and magicians.

Although the musicians and magicians play different roles, the poetess paired them together because music and magic go hand in hand. Both musicians and magicians usually co-exist at the bazaar and at fairs. She enquires with the musicians what musical instruments they play and asks the magicians what spells they chant. Musicians display instruments like Sitar, Sarangi and drums while magicians chant spells to bring charm for the ages to come. Thus, her description of Indian goods, bazaars and the different types of vendors is quite realistic.

### **3. Comment on the juxtaposition of the flower girls making garlands for a bridegroom, while also making them for corpses at the same time.**

Answer. The flower girls were selling flowers for both happy and sad occasions. For the wedding ceremony, they were making crowns and garlands. Chaplets were made to adorn the bridegroom's bed. The flower girls were also preparing a white flower sheet to drape over the dead bodies.

The flower girls weave with azure and red tassels. Crowns for the bridegroom and chaplets to adorn their bed. On the one side, the flower girls make garlands to adorn the bride's and groom's beds, while on the other, they make white flower sheets to beautify the graves of the deceased. They devote the same amount of effort to both things. The poem depicts the joyous and sad moments of life side by side.

### **4. How does the poem balance the physical world with the philosophical?**

Answer: Sarojini Naidu's poems are known for their folk themes. This poem, In the Bazaars of Hyderabad, is a classic example of Hyderabad folk. The mortals and their quest for the magical city have been wonderfully described by the poetess. Different types of goods, people and occupations have been vividly highlighted in a lucid manner, with the inhabitants of the city busy shopping and selling their items. The Hyderabad market is made up of a variety of shopkeepers, including merchants, vendors, maidens, pedlars, goldsmiths, fruitmen, musicians, and magicians.

She adds a touch of vibrancy to the words and phrases to make the poetry more appealing. The poetess beautifully depicts the range of activities and their colourfulness in order to paint an amazing picture of Indian culture. She mentions people's various jobs and the lovely items they offer. She makes it beautiful and poetic.

### **5. The swadeshi movement launched during the freedom struggle urged Indians to boycott British products and to rely on the local ones. Re-read Naidu's Biography on page 1 and discuss what relevance the poem may have in this context.**

Answer: The poem is full of vivid imagery. Sarojini Naidu discusses numerous colours such as crimson, silver, purple, scarlet, and blue, which represent different stages of life from marriage to death. The poem is also patriotic in the sense that it encourages readers to buy Indian goods rather than British ones. The economic differences in society are represented in the items sold in the poem. Life's essentials and pleasures are discussed. Death and life are depicted side by side.

Sarojini Naidu was a major political figure in the Indian freedom struggle throughout the first part of the twentieth century. She was the first woman governor of India and the President of the Indian National Congress. She anchored her poetry in the culture of India. Sarojini Naidu came up with the notion of creating poetry to transmit and spread the message of the Indian Independence struggle because newspapers were banned at the time. The author is attempting to remind Indians of the diversity of things available in the market and to encourage them to buy Swadeshi (Indian) goods and boycott foreign goods through this poem.

## **LONG ANSWERS:**

**Answer the following questions in about 350 - 400 words.**

### **1. Describe the scene of the bazaar in your own words**

Answer: Sarojini Naidu (1879-1949), an Indian independence activist and poet from Hyderabad, India, wrote the poem *In the Bazaars of Hyderabad* in the early twentieth century. The poem, which is written in five stanzas, was first published in 1912 in a book called *The Bird of Time*, which included her other poetry. The poem represents Hyderabad's social and cultural life; it is not just a location for business operations such as buying and selling, but it is also a gathering place for people from all walks of life with a variety of interests.

Naidu highlights the charm of traditional Hyderabad bazaars in this poetry. She depicted vibrant pictorial scenarios of merchants, sellers, peddlers, goldsmiths, fruit-men, and flower girl hawking their wares, all of whom answered the inquiries of buyers after lengthy haggling. The poem also details the musical equipment that artists use and sell, as well as the magicians who chant spells to create long-lasting enchantment. The poetess recounts the glorious things of life as well as everyday scenes in Hyderabad bazaars in this poem, which is written in the style of conversations between buyers and vendors. Sarojini Naidu has constantly inquired about various types of things sold in the bazaar in each stanza.

Naidu depicts the scene of traditional instruments being played by musicians and the chantings of magicians, as well as the numerous fruits being sold by fruit-men, the weighing of saffron, lentils, and rice by merchants, and other renderings of various products offered in the bazaar. The poet not only emphasizes the market's charm, which is comparable to the variety of flowers available in the market but also its significance in terms of its various colours, which represent the diversity of Indian culture. The poem's language is beautiful and lyrical. In the minds of the readers, it effectively creates an imaginary bazaar. The reader or listener can envision the various fancy products being sold by shopkeepers of various professions. The language is pleasing to the ear and full of vivid pictures.

The Nizams of Hyderabad were aristocratic rulers, and the city of Hyderabad has a long history of royalty, which the poetry required. Naidu uses language to create a royal and mysterious atmosphere around the items for sale in Hyderabad's bazaars. With the dramatic pictures used, her words in the poem make the poetry alive and vibrant. The way she depicts commonplace items in everyday life causes one to rethink and picture them in a new light.

### **2. how does the sensory details in the poem contribute to the overall theme and mood of the market place?**

Answer : In this poem, Naidu describes the beauty of traditional Hyderabad Bazaars. She presented the lively pictorial scenes of merchants, vendors, peddlers, goldsmiths, fruitmen and flower girls selling their goods, all of whom answer the questions of purchasers who buy their articles after detailed bargaining. The poem also describes the musical instruments being used and sold by the musicians and the magicians who chant spells to bring charm for the ages to come. She glorifies Indian goods in the poem because during that time India was under the Subjugation of British rule and British goods were sold in the Indian bazaar instead of Indian ones. The poet, therefore, is attempting to praise Indian goods in order to encourage people to boycott foreign goods, ultimately supporting Indian independence.

A reader should also pay attention to the times when the poetess uses the senses to enhance the realism of a scenario. This is demonstrated through the use of a range of colours, including "silver" and "azure." The music playing in the background, as well as the words of the sellers and consumers, stimulate the aural sense. While the descriptions of stalls may differ, they have all been written to make the value of their existence clear. This is reinforced by the use of words like lemons, lentils, and rice to describe food. It is evident from the first stanza that the poet is proud of the world she is depicting. She was from Hyderabad, so she was probably familiar with the markets. This is evident in the zeal with which she praises each shop and its wares. Although the speaker changes frequently in the text, the same kind of feelings come through. The customer or customers are always engaged with what they are seeing. They are consistently interested in the products and the vendors are always willing to describe them in detail. Thus the poetess

Sarojini Naidu represents an Indian market to give us a sense of the rich Indian heritage. This poem was her protest against European products and an appreciation of our own goods .

**3. What do you think are the special features of Bazaar? How does it compare with a fair or bazaar in your town?**

Answer: The poem "In the Bazaar in Hyderabad" was written during the period when India was under British control. Newspapers were banned at the time, so Sarojini Naidu came up with the idea of writing poetry to convey and disseminate the message of India's struggle for independence. Through this poem, the poet reminds Indians of the various swadeshi (Indian) commodities available on the market so that they boycott foreign products.

Sarojini Naidu describes the magnificent things of life along with common scenes in the bazaars of Hyderabad; The poem is set in the form of conversations between customers and vendors. Sarojini Naidu has repeatedly asked questions in every stanza about the different kinds of goods sold in the bazaar. Naidu presents the scene of the music produced by traditional instruments played by the musicians and the chantings of the magicians, the various fruits being sold by the fruit-men, the weighing of saffron, lentils and rice by the vendors, and other depictions of different wares which are sold in the bazaar. The poet has used vibrant rhymes to describe the magnificence of the bazaars and the products sold.

The poet not only points out the beauty of the market which is similar to that of assorted flowers available in the market but are also significant in terms of its diverse colours which signify the diversity of Indian culture.

A temporary market where buyers and sellers meet to transact business is known as a fair. A fair occurs at regular intervals, usually in the same site and at the same time of year, and lasts for several days or even weeks. A bazaar, on the other hand, is a marketplace with many small shops and stalls. Every year on September 8th, a fair is held at our place. It lasts approximately three days and has vendors from all over the country displaying their wares. At the fair one can find clothes, artificial jewellery, local street food, swings for children etc. Shops are usually put up on either side of the main road leading to the Catholic Church.

**Prose: The Eyes Are Not Here**

**1. What did the narrator like about his travelling companion?**

Answer: In the short story "The Eyes Are Not Here" by Ruskin Bond, the narrator likes his traveling companion because of the companionship they share during their journey. The companion's presence seems to provide a sense of comfort and connection in an unfamiliar setting. Additionally, the companion's watchfulness and attentiveness add to the narrator's sense of security.

**2. In the prose the eyes are not here compare how the narrator and the new passenger each form an image of the girl.**

In the prose "The Eyes Are Not Here," both the narrator and the new passenger form distinct images of the girl. The narrator envisions the girl as an unattainable and mysterious figure, focusing on her absence and the emotions she stirs. On the other hand, the new passenger interprets the girl as a representation of the transient nature of beauty and desire. Their perceptions highlight how personal experiences and perspectives shape their understanding of the same individual.

**3. Describe what happens when the girl gets off the train.**

The new fellow passenger entered the train and walked right past. Most likely, the new travel companion bumped into her or got in her way, and he stuttered an apology. The new travel companion then told the narrator that he was not as appealing as the girl who had just left the compartment, because the girl was really pretty and had very wonderful eyes. He also remarked that the girl was blind.

**4. Why do you think the narrator tries to trick people into believing he can see?**

Answer: In the story, the narrator is a multidimensional personality. He is blind and doesn't want anyone to know about it. He acts as though he is a normal person in front of the girl. He is constantly aware of his weaknesses. However, this does not seem to have a significant impact on his personality. He interacts with the young girl with confidence. We learn from this conversation that he is a worshipper of natural beauty. His blindness hasn't been enough to suppress his romantic side. He has a strong attraction towards the girl and desires that his interactions with

her would go forever As he does not want to live in a dreamy world, he tries to hide his blindness from the people around him.

**5. How does the girl respond to the narrator's questions?**

Answer : In his compartment, the narrator had been travelling alone. He was tired of this lonely journey, therefore the appearance of the girl was a pleasant sign. He also enjoyed talking with Su others. When the narrator asked the girl if she was travelling all the way to Dehra. His voice startled p the girl, most likely because he was sitting in a dark corner. She let out a small exclamation and stated that she had not noticed him. And when the narrator complimented her on her interesting face, she smiled and said it was a nice change to be told that. She said she was sick of being told that she had a beautiful face.

**LONG ANSWERS:**

**1. What are the instances in the story 'The Eyes are not here' where it is evident that both the narrator and the girl are blind? How do why try to mislead each other? Do they succeed?**

"The Eyes Are Not Here" is a short story by Ruskin Bond. In the story, both the narrator and the girl are blind, though they try to hide their blindness from each other. Instances where their blindness is evident include the narrator mistaking a rope for a snake and the girl confusing a fallen branch for a boy.

They try to mislead each other by describing their surroundings in ways that suggest they can see, using descriptive language to create an illusion of sight. For example, the narrator mentions colors and details he can't actually perceive, while the girl talks about seeing a person where there isn't one.

Ultimately, their attempts to mislead each other seem to succeed on some level, as they both maintain a conversation that gives the impression they can see. However, the reader is aware of their blindness, creating dramatic irony. The story explores themes of connection, loneliness, and the different ways people cope with their challenges.

**2. Discuss the significance of the title THE EYES NOT HERE IN RELATION TO THE THEME OF THE STORY?**

Answer: The Short Story 'The Eyes Are Not Here' was written by Indian writer Ruskin Bond. The story follows two blind individuals who meet on a train and are unaware that they are also blind. The story depicts situational irony.

The storyteller pretended to the girl from the beginning of the journey that he was not blind. However, when he asked the second co-passenger if the girls hair was short or long, the man said he had not noticed the girl's hair. He only saw the girl's lovely eyes, which were useless to her because she was absolutely blind. The incident is ironic in the sense that the narrator was trying to conceal his blindness from a blind girl. It's quite heartbreaking to consider the two blind people, each of whom strives to hide their blindness from one another.

This story of two blind people trying to hide their disability is a stunning story on human perception. The narrator, who was blind at the time, presented the entire story with tact and discretion, not disclosing much about himself. During their train journey from Delhi to Dehra, the two main characters, the narrator and the young girl met. The narrator was eager to learn more about the girl and to admire her attractiveness. The narrator, on the other hand, revealed very little about himself. With the exception of his journey to Dehra and later Mussoorie. He kept his blindness hidden from the young girl. He didn't say anything about himself. When the girl asked the narrator if he was too serious, he changed the topic. The narrator expressed some of his inner thoughts without revealing much about himself in order to keep the readers in the dark.

**3. The narrator is an imaginative person. Support this assertion by providing evidence that is unconnected to the girl on the train.**

Answer: Ruskin Bond has written a fantastic short story The Eyes are Not Herein which he employs the first person narrative method The narrative is told by someone who is blind himself. Light and darkness are the only things that his eyes are sensitive to He meets a girl on his way to Dehradun on train. He strikes up a discussion with her and eventually develops an interest in her. To impress the girl, he cleverly covers his blindness.

The dialogue, however, does not continue long. As the train arrives at her destination, the girl bids him farewell. A new male passenger enters the compartment after she has left. The narrator learns from that man that the girl was

entirely blind. The storyteller is taken aback by the revelation. He believes he has fooled himself. This is an ironic twist that adds to the charm of the story's conclusion.

Situational Irony is well-represented in this narrative. Ironically, the author uses two blind persons as primary characters, neither of whom is aware of the others blindness. Even after listening to her parents advice and instructions to their daughter, the author is unaware that the girl sitting next to him is also blind. The author depicts the landscape outside from his recollections in order to avoid her from discovering he is blind. To keep the story alive, he tells the girl that she has a beautiful face. The storyteller eventually deceives himself. He may have also misled the girl because she was unaware that her companion was also blind.

The author begins the narrative in a basic yet intriguing manner. The two of them had a dialogue that was entirely imaginative and based on his previous experiences. Because he was blind, the author took a chance by complimenting her appearance. The narrator has succeeded in demonstrating basic human behaviour in making initial assumptions about how we view the world and other people throughout the narrative.

The narrative teaches us something extremely important. God has given each and every person in the world a fair portion of luck and skill, so instead of hiding our flaws, we should enjoy what we have and not complain about what we don't. Finally, we learn a valuable lesson about the impact of initial assumptions on our perceptions of the world and other people.

## **POEM- IF**

### **1.What virtues and qualities does Kipling emphasize in the poem?**

Answer: The poem 'If' by Rudyard Kipling, the India-born British Nobel laureate Poet, is a poem of the ultimate inspiration that advises us on how to deal with many situations in life. The poet expresses his thoughts on how to succeed in this life, and, ultimately, how to be a human being with noble nature. The poem is 32 lines long, with four stanzas of eight lines each, and was composed in 1895 and first published in 1910 in 'Rewards and Fairies.' It's in honour of Leander Starr Jameson. The poem is written in the form of advice to the poet's son, John. A father instructs his son on how to be happy and how to be a perfect man in the poem. If one is to become a flawless man, numerous conditions must be met. Even if others around him have lost their head, he should not lose his. When everyone else doubts him, he must trust himself. He should be patient and not get tired of waiting. He should not follow in the footsteps of those who tell him lies. People may despise him, but he must not despise them. He shouldn't strive to look too good or speak too intelligently.

## **LONG ANSWERS:**

### **Q1 In what ways can lessons and values presented in IF poem be applied to real life situations and personal development?**

A.The poem If is written by Rudyard Kipling. Kipling is an English short-story writer, poet and novelist. He is chiefly known for his stories and poems about the British soldiers in India. He also wrote stories for children.

The poem's theme is on the challenges and conditions that we must encounter and overcome in order to thrive in life and make a lasting impression. While the poem contains valuable life lessons

The challenges and events described in the poem are extremely similar to those we experience in our daily lives, particularly in the workplace. When things start to go wrong, the blame game begins. Each of them is engaged in a desperate attempt to deflect blame and avoid taking responsibility for their failure. It is a powerful technique to assert, establish, and exhibit leadership to keep one's calm and adopt a "take charge" mentality by grasping the leadership chance under adversity. Surprisingly, a calm, level-headed approach can really help one gain benefit in a bad scenario.

Another unfortunate situation which is very common among friends or work colleagues is to backbite and criticise behind someone's back. Very often this is accompanied by false and baseless rumours. The victim of such malicious attacks, on coming to know of such instances, is often tempted to retaliate in a similar fashion and this ends up setting up a vicious cycle that vitiates the atmosphere, be it in a social or work context. Difficult as it is, not giving in to the temptation of indulging in such negative behaviour can actually build one's reputation and stature as an honest and principled person.

Being the object of hatred is a terrible but all-too-common occurrence that affects us all in different ways. The major point here is to avoid retaliating in the same way. It's a lot simpler to say than it is to do. Our "fight or flight" reaction system compels us to retaliate. It takes a strong person to continue to offer love and respect to others, even

when they hate us. A person with the maturity to respond in such a balanced manner is not weak, but rather extremely powerful.

It's worth remembering that Rudyard Kipling composed this poem for his son, as the very last line expresses. Rudyard Kipling intended to teach his son valuable life skills and show him how to be a competent leader in the future. This profound message, on the other hand, is for all of us who are striving to reach our full potential in any type of human endeavour.

### **Q3. Summarize the poet 's message in your own words. Do you agree with it?**

Answer: Rudyard Kipling's poem "if" is a collection of advice from a parent to his son. Throughout the poem, the author instructs his son on how to deal with I am complex but Worthy various situations that would arise in his life.

The poem has good rhyme and is composed of four stanzas, each of which has eight lines. The poem is in rhyme and it has good sound effects. It has fine imagery. The mood is one of joy and optimism. The language used is simple. There are a lot of symbols and figures of speech in the language, especially personification.

The poem conveys a meaningful message about how to live a successful, moral, and happy life in the face of adversity. The poem emphasises the need of believing in oneself, remaining calm and patient, being honest and associating with honest people, and working hard without showing off.

The poem encourages the reader to be patient, open, honest, trustworthy, and humble. He would have to deal with criticism, opposition, lies, and hatred. When people accuse him, he should not lose faith. He must be optimistic and believe in himself, but he must also do everything in his power to accept their reservations. In this, he must maintain his integrity, beliefs, and principles, while also not appearing too good or smart.

This poem advises one to dream, but cautions against making one's master wish. He's allowed to fantasies , but he shouldn't make his imagination his goal. Loss and performance should be treated in the same way. Even though the fruits of his labour have been wasted, he should remain optimistic. In the final stanza, the poet tells him to keep speaking to the masses and at the same time, he can maintain his virtue. The poet advises him to stroll among the Kings while maintaining a human touch. Both men should be able to count on his help. He should forgive people without hesitation. If he can accomplish all of these goals, the world and everything in it will be his.

The message of the poem is to be happy and successful in life. The poem talks of conditional fulfilment. If certain conditions, as specified in the poem, are fulfilled, one can be a perfect man, enjoying his life. 'If' is the most famous poem of Kipling. It attracted nationwide attention. It soon became a very popular anthem. It totally agree with the message that he wants to convey.

## **prose: On Saying Please**

### **1. ILLUSTRATE THE POWER OF USING PLEASE IN COMMUNICATION.**

Answer : The story begins with the incident of a lift man. It tells the story of an incident that occurred at a city office. A young lift man retaliated violently against a passenger who refused to politely request to be taken to the building's top floor. The passenger had declined to add the word "Please" to his instruction.

Although excellent manners are always deemed pleasing in civil society, the narrator claims that they are not legally enforced. There is no legal system that requires citizens of a society to act courteously. As a result, the law ruled in favour of the plaintiff, despite the fact that most people sympathise with the lift-man.

After making this point, the narrator acknowledges that bad behaviour cannot be forgiven just because it is not penalised by law. The case of the lift-man demonstrates that, while the lack of a respectful gesture from a passenger was a source of embarrassment for the lift-man, the law cannot punish anyone who behaves badly. Individuals are responsible for regulating their own behaviour and public conduct.

### **Q2. Write a short character sketch of the conductor.**

Answer : The conductor whom the narrator had met several times on a bus is a polite man. While most people in this employment are prone to an aggressive demeanour and a loud voice, the narrator claims that he was not like them. In fact, he once showed amazing courtesy to the narrator and spared him from a major inconvenience. The conductor graciously excused the narrator when he accidentally boarded the bus without any cash and feared the imminent humiliation. When the conductor accidentally stepped on the narrator's foot with his heavy boots, the narrator, too, demonstrated similar nice behaviour.

The narrator noticed the conductor's cheery demeanour from then on, and he was always glad to see his courteous behaviour with others. He was a wonderful person who treated everyone with kindness and patience. He was kind to the elderly and kind to the youngsters. A single bus ride with the conductor was a lesson in natural civility to him

Answer: According to the author, not only does bad temper damage the person who exhibits it, but it also harms all who come into contact with him. Bad manners are contagious in the sense that they pollute the overall flow of life more than any other crime. When a man is insulted by someone, he passes it on to someone of lower social standing, and so on, until the entire world is infected with ill-humours.

It is true that bad manners are infectious but good manners are also equally infectious. They pass from one person to another like bad manners and influence the whole society.

#### **Q4. What is the significance of the Chesterfield anecdote to the author's argument?**

Answer: Chesterfield was a famous writer. During his time the streets of London were devoid of pavements. Pedestrians found it difficult to walk on the road. The feet of those closest to the wall were the driest. Chesterfield was once told by a fellow who arrived from the opposite direction that he never gave the wall to a scoundrel. Chesterfield graciously moved back, stating, "I always do." That was enough revenge, yet it was done in a very appropriate yet courteous and civil manner

Therefore this anecdote has great significance and relevance to the context of the essay "On Saying Please".

#### **Q5. What message or moral lesson does Gardiner convey through his Essay?**

Answer: Law can be enforced only in specific instances of violation of human rights as spelt in the constitution. However, the law cannot enforce or compel one to say 'please' and '&'thanks' which would come under manners, not rule. Law does not consider hurting our feelings as a case for compensation nor does it compensate for moral and intellectual damage.

A man with bad manners is disliked by everybody. Words like 'Please' and 'Thank you' help us in making our passage through life smooth. The law does not permit us to hit back if we are the victims of bad manners. Thus Law cannot become the guardian of our private manners.

### **LONG ANSWERS:**

#### **1Q What lessons or insights can readers gain from Gardiner's perspective on the impact of simple courtesies like saying "Please" in every interactions?**

Answer:

Alfred George Gardiner was an English novelist, journalist, and editor. His works, which he wrote under the pen name "Alpha of the Plough" have received a lot of attention. He was a regular contributor to the Manchester Evening News, the Daily News, and other media. 'The Pillars of Society', 'Pebbles on the Shore', and 'Many Furrows and Leaves in the Wind' are among his best-known pieces. His unique ability to express life's essential truths and moral concerns in a straightforward and amusing manner is remarkable.

The essay 'On Saying Please' deals with socially important issues that we come across in, our daily life. The essay shows how using polite words and phrases like 'please' and 'thank you' can change the course of our day. Such words help us in making our passage through life smooth. It emphasizes the need for good manners in everyday life. The narrator gives accounts of two instances. Through them, he proves that both good manners, as well as bad manners, are infectious.

According to the author, good manners are important for our social life and to live peacefully in society. While exhibiting good manners it is important to be aware of the dire consequences of bad manners. Our behaviour is a mirror for others to retort back in the same manner. It is not an exaggeration to say that manners make a man. Good manners are also as infectious as bad manners. Just like the sunny weather that brightens up people's spirits, good behaviour also brightens up the day. If we are kind, civil and humorous towards others we will get the same response from others. Gardiner uses the example of a cheerful conductor to demonstrate how such people promote happiness. Gardiner makes it obvious that if we get unpleasant conductors now and then, it is the result of their demanding job. The courteous conductor, on the other hand, delightfully surprised the author by purchasing a ticket for him because he had forgotten his purse at home. He was pleasantly surprised by the conductor's friendly demeanour. The conductor had also stepped on the author's toe on another occasion. But he was sincere in his apologies, and the author easily forgave him. The author also developed a habit of observing the well-behaved conductor who took various responsibilities in assisting his passengers. He was a son to the elderly, a father to the children, a friend to the young, and a caregiver to the disabled.

The fact that the conductor would get out of the bus and ask the driver to wait for him that he could take the blind across the road or around the corner particularly astonished the author. Gardiner goes on to say that, just as nice weather boosts our spirits, so do good-natured individuals. Even unpleasant people can't resist their charm. Gardiner wraps up the essay by commenting the rudeness appeared to be a result of war. He makes a sincere plea to his audience to restore civility to social behaviour.

2. Comment on the importance of patience with respect to the theme of this essay.

Answer: Alfred George Gardiner was a novelist, journalist, and editor who lived in England. His works, which he wrote under the pen name "Alpha of the Plough" have been well-received. He contributed to the Manchester Evening News, the Daily News, and other publications on a regular basis. His best-known works include 'The Pillars of Society,' 'Pebbles on the Shore,' and 'Many Furrows and Leaves in the Wind'. His exceptional ability to explain life's most important truths and moral concerns in a straightforward and humorous manner is remarkable.

This essay tells us the value of good manners. Bad manners are not a legal crime. But a man with bad manners is disliked by everybody. A lift man was punished for throwing an ill-mannered person out of the lift. The lift man was wrong because he had used violence. If a person is hurt physically, he can go to the law. Bad manners create a chain reaction, so do good manners. So, we should reply bad manners with good manners.

The foundations of civility are politeness and good manners. "Thank you" and "Please" are tiny words, but they have a huge impact on the mutual relationship. Instead of superiors dictating to inferiors, they encourage smooth give and take and cordial interaction between individuals.

The conductor's manners delighted the author greatly. He loved how easy it was for him to work. According to the author, good manners, like poor manners, are contagious. When we come into contact with a nice person, we become polite as well. The bus conductor's pleasant demeanour, friendliness, and sense of humour were well received by his passengers. The outstanding bus conductor has demonstrated that a common calling (a plain, low-status occupation) may be such people. Elevated by a pleasant demeanour and a warm heart. We should learn from and be inspired by

We should value actions that make the world a better place. This will assist us in making life "kind and tolerable for one another". If we flavour our actions with kindness, civility, and humour, the world will be a beautiful, liveable place. Law has its limitations and cannot assist us in establishing a pleasant and civil society. It can only protect us from a physical attack at the most.

### **Q3. How, according to the author, can bad manners and a poor temper affect society?**

**Answer :** Alfred George Gardiner, an English journalist, biographer, and essayist, goes by the pen name "Alpha of the Plough".

"On Saying Please" is an apt satire on people's social mannerisms. The author wishes for civility and courtesy.

The world is a place where we must coexist with a diverse range of individuals with diverse attitudes, manners, traditions, and mentalities. They act in a variety of ways, yet we must put up with them in order for life to continue smoothly. We will contaminate the entire atmosphere and disrupt the flow of life if we do not acquire good manners.

This essay tells us the value of good manners. Bad manners are not a legal crime. But a man with bad manners is disliked by everybody. A lift man was punished for throwing an ill-mannered person out of the lift. The lift man was wrong because he had used violence. If a person is hurt physically, he can go to the law. Bad manners create a chain reaction, so do good manners. So, we should reply bad manners with good manners.

The narrator considers the situation of the lift man in a broader context. Though not excused, the passenger's bad behaviour could have stemmed from his own employer's failure to greet him with a friendly "Good Morning".

The employer, in turn, may have had a tense discussion with his wife, who may have been irritated by the housemaid's bad behaviour, and so on. This chain demonstrates that bad behaviour is contagious.

According to the author, a bad temper harms not only the person who exhibits it but also those who come in contact with him. Bad manners are infectious in the sense that they do poison the stream of the general life more than all the crimes in the calendar. When a man gets insulted by someone he passes it on to someone else below his social standing and in the same manner, it keeps passing from one to another and the whole world gets infected with ill humour.

Good manners have been promoted by all religions, yet no religion or constitution has ever attempted to legislate against ill manners. "Please" & "Thank you," and "Sorry" in the writer's opinion, are the small courtesies that keep the machine of life oiled and smoothly running. They create a kind and welcoming environment. The author



encourages us to return to these manners and behaviours so that society can become a safer and more enjoyable place to live.

## **POEM –THE ROAD NOT TAKEN**

### **1.How does Frost depict the idea of individualism and personal choice in the poem?**

Ans: No, till now I have never been presented with such a situation. There are various minor instances in our life too that present us with a choice and decisions are to be made. In such instances, we should be guided by our hearts and make the best possible decision.

In my case after completing my general education, I will have to decide upon the profession I wish to continue. I will have multiple options before me. I will try to choose a path that gives me satisfaction and mental peace. Like the poet in the poem, I would love to choose a challenging and unexplored path in my life.

### **2. what message or lesson about life can be derived from Frosts portrayal of decision making?**

Ans: I always believe in taking time and thinking about all the possible consequences before planning. Some decisions can change our life forever and hence we should go with what our heart desires. We should not try our best to not do things and take actions to satisfy others. We should give preference to our desires and wishes and work hard for them. Therefore; I believe in sticking to my decisions and being accountable for them.

## **Long Answer Type Questions**

### **Question 1. Bring out the contrast and similarities between the two roads mentioned in the poem.**

Answer:Both the roads mentioned in the poem are the offshoots of the same road. As this mother road running through the 'yellow woods' forks into two – these two roads are formed. Both of them are equally inviting and put the traveller in a fix as he stands to wonder which road to take up.

A keen observation reveals that, unlike the other road, one of the roads is well-trodden. It has commonly been chosen by a majority of the people. Maybe it is considered to be an easier path. However, it takes a turn and its end cannot be seen just as the other road's destination cannot be foreseen. In the morning both the roads are well-covered with leaves as no one has so far ventured on either of the two. Both the roads once chosen would have to be stuck to. Years later whichever road is not taken would be looked at wistfully and one would wonder whether the right choice had been made.

### **Question 2. Bring out the symbolism in the poem 'The Road Not Taken'.**

**Answer:** The poem 'The Road Not Taken' concerns a choice made between two roads by the poet. The poet decides to explore one road and then come back and explore the other but this might not be possible. The choice of roads in the poem symbolizes the choices that one has to make in life. All the choices appear to be equally attractive. They are confining too as one cannot foretell the eventual result of one's choice. Through the years, however, we come to find out that the choices we make and the paths we choose, will make all the difference in our lives.

### **Question 3. What message or lesson about life can be derived from Frosts portrayal of decision making?**

**Answer:** This is an inspirational poem and quite tricky, according to Robert Frost himself. The poem presents an antithesis. The traveller comes to a fork and wishes to take both, which is impossible. First, one of the roads is described as grassy and 'wanted wear', then he says that both the roads look the same. This represents the eternal

dilemma in man when he finds the grass greener on the other side. This poem is a call for the reader to forge his or her way in life and not follow the path that others have taken. This poem encourages self-reliance, reinforces the power of independent thinking and sticking to one's decisions. The poet does not moralize about choice. He simply says that choice is inevitable and you will never know until you have lived the 'difference.' So there is nothing right or wrong about a choice, it is all relative. Whatever direction one takes one must pack it with determination and zest for one can never turn the clock back, or relive that moment.

**Question 4. Discuss the title of the poem “The Road Not Taken”. Is it appropriate for the poem?**

**Answer:** The poem has an apt title. ‘The road’ is the symbol of the choices made by us in life. Many times, we regret the choice made by us but what is done once cannot be undone. Or, we may be happy for having taken the decisions we did. Even as the speaker makes a choice of taking the path that is less walked on, and leaves the well-trodden path for another day, the speaker knows that he will never be able to return to take the other path.

He knows that sometime in the future he will regret, or at the very least he will wonder, at the other path that is irrevocably lost. He realises that there is no Right Path—just the chosen path and the other path. Ages hence, he will sigh over the decisions taken. Hence, the poet has given his poem the title “The Road Not Taken”.

**Question 5. Debate the topic ‘The speaker is purposefully ambiguous about whether or not he’s -happy with his choice.’**

**Answer:** “The Road Not Taken” is a poem about the other road or the choices one makes. When he has to make a choice, the speaker takes the road that many people have avoided, or the road less taken. The other road is the road the speaker did not take. He does want to return to the road at some point, but knows he will not be able to come back to take that road. There is something about his decision of not taking the other road that causes the speaker to sigh in remembrance of not leaving it. The sigh seems to be a sad sigh, simply because he could not take both roads.

The speaker feels his decision has made all the difference. In a sense, the speaker is trying to convince himself that he took the right road. However, the fact that the speaker is still thinking about the other road is an indication that he will forever have a doubt. Truly, this poem is about the other road, the road the speaker did not take. Seeing as how “way leads on to way,” the speaker doubts that he shall ever go back. Therefore, he visits the idea of taking the other road only in his memory.

### **PROSE: SEEING PEOPLE OFF**

**Q1. “ Our failure is in exact ratio to the seriousness of the occasion, and to the dept our feeling. ” What failure is Beerbohm talking about? Explain the meaning of this statement.**

**Answer:** Sir Henry Maximilian Beerbohm was an English writer and caricaturist, popular for his witty essays and amusing caricatures. He is known for his charming conversation and amusing anecdotes.

The author of the text is Max Beerbohm. He is an English Essayist, Critic and caricaturist - The subject of “Seeing People off” is drawn from life. The story has a narrative presentation with - elements of dialogue. The story is about how people behave at the station at farewell. It is on when a friend is going on a long journey, and will be absent for a

longer time, then we turn up at the railway station. It is something like a farce. The failure is the gap between seriousness of the occasion and the depth of our feeling.

**Q2. Describe what happens when the girl gets off the train?**

Answer: The narrator went to see his friend off at the railway station. They were stiff and self-conscious on the platform. Suddenly the narrator found Hubert le Ros who came to see a young lady off. The way le Ros was talking earnestly from the platform to a young lady surprised the narrator. The bidding adieu was quite impressive. Young lady was American and the middle-aged man (le Ros) was English. The way le Ros was

**Q3. Elaborate on the purpose and working of the AASB in your own words.**

Answer: Sir Henry Maximilian Beerbohm was an English writer and caricaturist, conversation and amusing anecdotes. popular for his witty essays and amusing caricatures. He is known for his charming

The AASB is the Anglo-American Social Bureau (Americans). Every year hundreds of Americans pass through England. The English are inhospitable and the American are very sociable. Many Americans have no English friends to see them off at the station. They have plenty of money to spend. The AASB supplies a long-felt want and supplies them with English friends. Fifty percent of the fees goes to the friends and other fifty is rationed by the AASB. The AASB supplies the paid seers-off to the English who pass through England.

**Q4. Beerbohm says that despite being a good actor, le Ros never found success on the London stage. Comment on this statement in the light of this essay.**

Answer: Sir Henry Maximilian Beerbohm was an English writer and caricaturist, popular for his witty essays and amusing caricatures. He is known for his charming conversation and amusing anecdotes.

Hubert le Ros was a magnetic personality. He was an excellent actor and a man of sober habit. His magnetism had never made him successful on the London stage. It is a mystery to the narrator. Le Ros was not acting on the "stage" nowadays but on the "platforms". He joined AASB as an employee to give send off to many Americans who pass through England, who suffer from a sense of loneliness and insecurity. The AASB supplies the long-felt want of Americans i.e., to be seen off by somebody at England. Though le Ros was not successful on London stage, he is successful on the platforms for those who are in need of somebody to wave them at the station, and make them happy and cheerful.

**Q5. Why does the author say that he envied le Ros? How is this connected to his request to le Ros?**

Answer: Sir Henry Maximilian Beerbohm was an English writer and caricaturist, popular for his witty essays and amusing caricatures. He is known for his charming conversation and amusing anecdotes.

The narrator went to Euston to see his friend off. At the same time le Ros came to train station to give send off to an American young lady. The narrator and his friend exchanged glances and were stiff and self-conscious. Le Ros's leave taking was so impressive. The Englishman and the American young lady were talking earnestly. Finally the narrator came to know that le Ros was a hired and a professional seer-off, who was acting in a beautiful way. So the author envied him and requested him to teach him the art of seeing people off. Le Ros consented to the narrator's request.

**LONG ANSWERS:**

**1. Who was Hubert le Ros? Describe him and his personality in your own words. What difference did the author notice between le Ros's previous and present circumstances?**

Answer: Sir Henry Maximilian Beerbohm was an English writer and caricaturist, popular for his witty essays and amusing caricatures. He is known for his charming conversation and amusing anecdotes.

Hubert le Ros was an excellent actor, and a man of sober habit. He was always magnetic. The strong tenderness of his gaze was really beautiful when he was seeing off the young lady of America. The narrator could feel something of his magnetism even from le Ros' profile. In a flash the narrator remembered that he was none other than Hubert le Ros. (The magnetism of le Ros was so strong and powerful. But le Ros was changed since the author saw him last, that was seven or eight years ago. He was then out of engagement (no job) and he borrowed half-a-crown from the author. The author feels privileged to lend anything to him. Le Ros was always magnetic but his magnetism had never made him successful on the London stage. He drifted seedily away into the provinces. Hence, the author ceased/stopped to remember him.

After many years, the author was surprised to see le Ros on the train platform of Euston. He was looking so prosperous and solid. He had put on flesh. His clothes, were changed (style) which made the author to recognise him. Earlier he used to wear imitation fur coat and ill-shorn lantern jaws. But now his costume was a model of rich and sombre moderation drawing everybody's attention. He looked like a banker. Anyone would have been proud to be seen off by him.

**Q2. How did the author's farewell at the train station differ from le Ros' send-off? What was ironic about this difference?**

Answer: Sir Henry Maximilian Beerbohm was an English writer and caricaturist, popular for his witty essays and amusing caricatures. He is known for his charming conversation and amusing anecdotes.

Max Beerbohm turned up to Euston, to see off an old friend who was starting for America. They were all stiff and self-conscious on the platform. His friend's face was fixed/framed in the window of the railway-carriage. They exchanged glances and silence prevailed among them. They were feeling as if they were all confined to railway carriage without any release as there was no sign of the train's departure. There were monosyllabic exchange of words.

Suddenly the author's eye alighted/fell on a portly middle-aged man who was talking earnestly from the platform to a young lady. His fine profile was vaguely familiar to the author. The young lady was American and the man was an English. The leave taking was quite impressive, and the strong tenderness of his gaze was really beautiful. He seemed magnetic, as he poured out his final injunctions. It was such an impressive farewell.

The author's leave taking was most unimpressive though the feelings/ emotions were genuine. But le Ros was an employee of AASB who was paid by the employers. Le Ros was trained in the art of seeing people off and was paid for that.

In the essay the author depicts an ordinary daily scene to reveal the social absurdity with and also the reification of the nice interpersonal relationship. humour, elegance and wit. The vanity and irony is in the exchange between affection and money and also the reification of the nice interpersonal relationship.

**Q3. What is Beerbohm's attitude towards seeing people off at a port or train station? Why does he feel this way, and what does he prefer instead?**

Answer: Sir Henry Maximilian Beerbohm was an English writer and caricaturist, popular for his witty essays and amusing caricatures. He is known for his charming conversation and amusing anecdotes.

Max Beerbohm feels that seeing people off is one of the most difficult things in the world. Leave taking is an occasion with mixed emotions/feelings. Ignoring the shadow of the future, we Words do not fail us. We express our genuine sorrow we feel. Happily celebrate the past. In a room, or even on a door step, we can make the farewell quite worthily.

Always, departing friends implore/plead us not to bother to come to the railway station. We know that they are not sincere in restraining us from seeing them off. They feel unhappy /sad if we take them at their word. On the surface, everything is different. And the tension is such that we only long for the guard to blow his whistle and put an end to the farce.

We cannot act without feeling. Le Ros reminds the author about seeing his friend off at the station - he was shuffling from foot to foot, staring blankly trying to open a conversation. Even Le Ros was like that before he was trained at AASB. Though he was trained and paid as a professional seer-off he was not trying to act, le Ros confessed to the author. Listening to what all le Ros expressed about seeing people off (his training at AASB) the author expressed his desire to join the course of how to bid farewell to people. Le Ros quoted high price to train the author, but the author did not grudge the investment thinking that its worth the art or skill.

**POETRY: THE HUMAN SEASONS**

**SUMMARY**

"The Human Seasons" by John Keats is one of the famous poems that talks of man and

his relationship with nature. The poem talks of man's nature like the four seasons - spring, summer, autumn and winter. Keats begin his poem by stating the simple known fact that "Four seasons fill the measure of the year". Then he starts personifying these seasons as man's four seasons of mind. First is the spring that is "lusty", symbolizing the vigor and excitement of man's youthful life. Second comes the summer season. In this season,

man thinks of sweet things, even dreaming as high as that can reach the heavens. Third is the season of autumn, when he begins to lose a bit of faith and liveliness of life. He is just "contented so to look / On mists in idleness". Lastly comes the winter, the cold, cruel and "pale misfeature". By the symbols of seasons used, Keats identifies them as birth, youth, maturity/adulthood and eventually old age or death. The excitement and lively theme begins to decrease and wane as it moves from season to season. So, just as seasons change from being beautiful and cheery to something bleak and gloomy, so also man's life is the same. The cycle continues, however much we may want it to stop.

### **SHORT ANSWERS**

#### **1. How does John Keats use the changing seasons as a metaphor for human life?**

Answer: • The poet describes the seasons of the year as the seasons in the mind of a human. He describes each season differently. He calls the spring as 'lusty' when everything is fancy clear, which means anything seems possible and he observes 'all beauty'. The idea is that during that phase he can take in all the beauty in an easy span.

#### **2. When emotions or themes does Keats associate with each season?**

Answer: The human soul has quiet coves in Autumn. The poet means that humans generally begin to lose a bit of faith and liveliness of life during this season.

### **LONG ANSWERS:**

#### **1. What inspired Keats to write the poem The Human Seasons?**

John Keats' poem "Ode to What the Human Seasons" (1820) was inspired by various factors

Keats wrote the poem in a letter to John Hamilton Reynolds (September 1819). The ode's structure and language reflect his spontaneous, lyrical style.

John Keats' poem "Ode to the Human Seasons" was inspired by a combination of literary, personal, and philosophical factors. Keats was heavily influenced by Shakespeare's Sonnet 138, which explores the seasons-as-life-stages metaphor. Additionally, Virgil's Eclogues, with their focus on nature and the cyclical passage of time, left an indelible mark on Keats' work.

On a personal level, Keats was grappling with the loss of his brother, Tom, who had passed away in 1818. This experience, coupled with Keats' own struggles with tuberculosis, made him acutely aware of life's fleeting nature. His unrequited love for Fanny Brawne also fueled introspection on the seasons of human life. These emotional experiences are woven throughout the poem.

The cultural and philosophical context of Romanticism also played a significant role in shaping Keats' ideas. The emphasis on nature, emotion, and human experience resonated deeply with Keats. He drew parallels between the seasons and human life cycles, reflecting his fascination with Greek mythology.

Keats' creative process was also influenced by his walking tours of the countryside, where he observed the changing seasons. Conversations with friends, such as Leigh Hunt and Percy Bysshe Shelley, further refined his ideas. The poem's themes of life's transience, human growth and decay, and emotional resonance of seasonal changes are timeless and universal.

Ultimately, "Ode to the Human Seasons" is a masterpiece that reflects Keats' unique blend of literary, personal, and philosophical influences. Written in a letter to John Hamilton Reynolds in September 1819, the poem showcases Keats' spontaneous and lyrical style, cementing its place in literary history.

#### **2. What emotions and experiences does Keats associate with each season in the poem and how do they symbolize different phases of life?**

A. In "The Human Seasons," John Keats portrays the human life span as a fleeting, cyclical journey, mirroring the seasons' natural progression. Keats divides human life into four stages, each corresponding to a season.

Keats depicts youth as a time of vitality and promise, where "life's joys and pains" are first experienced. Spring's awakening symbolizes the dawn of life, full of potential and innocence.

#### Adulthood (Summer)

Summer's warmth represents adulthood's peak, where "Strength gathers, and puts forth and ripens." Keats portrays this stage as one of growth, accomplishment, and fulfillment.

#### Old Age (Autumn)

Autumn's decline and harvest signify old age's waning powers and reflection on life's accomplishments. Keats acknowledges the passing of youthful vigor but highlights the wisdom and experience gained.

#### Death (Winter)

Winter's chill and barrenness represent death's inevitability, yet also hint at the potential for renewal. Keats suggests that death is an integral part of life's cycle, a necessary step for new life to emerge.

#### Key Features of Keats' Portrayal

- Cyclic view of life: emphasizing growth, decay, and renewal
- Fleeting nature of life: each stage passes swiftly
- Universality: all humans experience these stages
- Emotional resonance: Keats explores the emotional highs and lows of each stage
- Symbolic language: seasons serve as powerful metaphors

#### Poetic Devices

- Metaphor (seasons = life stages)
- Imagery (vivid descriptions of seasonal changes)
- Personification (seasons are given human-like qualities)
- Symbolism (seasons represent life stages)

By portraying the human life span through the seasons, Keats creates a poignant and relatable poem that:

- Encourages appreciation for each life stage
- Acknowledges life's fleeting nature
- Highlights the interconnectedness of human experience and nature
- Inspires contemplation on mortality and the cycle of life

Keats' masterful portrayal of the human life span in "The Human Seasons" continues to resonate with readers, offering a profound and universal meditation on existence.

### **3. Discuss the use of imagery and poetic devices in Human Seasons and how they enhance the theme of transience and human morality?**

Ans: Keats utilizes imagery to vividly describe seasonal changes, evoking sensory experiences. For example, "Sprints honed breath" and "Autumn's hue" create powerful visual and olfactory impressions. Metaphor is another key device, equating seasons with life stages: Spring represents youth, Summer adulthood, Autumn old age, and Winter death.

Personification gives seasons human-like qualities, such as "Spring's awakening" and "Summer's strength gathers." Nature is anthropomorphized, as in "the Spring shows her face." Symbolism is also prevalent, with seasons and natural elements representing human experiences. Leaves, flowers, and harvest symbolize growth, decay, and renewal.

Keats' poetic structure reinforces the seasons' cyclical nature. The ode format, comprising four stanzas, mirrors the four seasons. The rhyme scheme and iambic pentameter create a sense of musicality and natural speech rhythms. Alliteration and enjambment add to the poem's fluidity and continuity.

Other literary devices include simile, comparing life stages to seasonal changes, and hyperbole, emphasizing life's fleeting nature. Irony emerges in the contrast between life's transience and the desire for permanence. Allusions to classical mythology and literature, such as Shakespeare's Sonnet 138, enrich the poem's cultural context.

By masterfully integrating these literary devices, Keats crafts a poem that:

- Evokes emotional resonance
- Explores the human condition
- Celebrates nature's beauty
- Contemplates mortality

#### **4. What is the central theme of the human seasons by Keats?**

The central theme of John Keats' poem "The Human Seasons" is the exploration of the cyclical nature of human life, mirroring the seasons' natural progression.

Keats posits that human existence, like the seasons, is characterized by growth, decay, and renewal. The poem contemplates the fleeting nature of life, emphasizing the transience of youth, adulthood, and old age.

The central theme can be broken down into three key aspects:

**Mortality and Transience:** Keats acknowledges that life's stages pass swiftly, culminating in death's inevitability.

**Cycles of Nature and Human Life:** The poem highlights the parallels between seasonal changes and human experiences, underscoring the interconnectedness of human existence and the natural world.

**Acceptance and Reflection:** Keats encourages the reader to appreciate each life stage, reflect on mortality, and find meaning in the cycle of life.

Through this exploration, Keats presents a profound and universal meditation on existence, encouraging readers to:

- Appreciate life's fleeting beauty
- Acknowledge mortality's inevitability
- Find solace in nature's cycles

Ultimately, "The Human Seasons" offers a poignant reminder to cherish each moment, embracing life's preciousness and the beauty of its cyclical nature.

**Key Takeaways:**

- Cyclical nature of human life
- Mortality and transience
- Interconnectedness with nature
- Acceptance and reflection
- Appreciation for life's fleeting beauty.

## **ROSE: SHYNESS MY SHIELD**

### **Comprehension - 1**

1. Why did Gandhi not talk at meetings? What did people think of his silence?

Answer : Shyness My Shield is an essay written by Mahatma Gandhi. This essay was extracted From Gandhiji' s autobiography "The Story of My Experiments with Truth"; It tells about the initial Fear of Gandhiji to deliver a public

speech when he was a student in England. It gives different anecdotes of Gandhi's repeated attempts and failures to deliver a public speech while he was in England. Finally, the essay says that Gandhiji's shyness became his shield.

Gandhi used to feel tongue-tied in the presence of a group. People used to think of him as a drone (a male bee) which is a thorough idler. He was at a loss for words to express himself amidst The group of people. Hence he was thought of an idler. (idle man)

Q2. What was the conflict that the Vegetarian Society faced with regard to Mr. Hills and Mr. Allinson? What was Gandhi's position?

Answer : Shyness My Shield is an essay written by Mahatma Gandhi. This essay was extracted from Gandhiji's autobiography "The Story of My Experiments with Truth" It tells about the initial fear of Gandhiji to deliver a public speech when he was a student in England. It gives different anecdotes of Gandhi's repeated attempts and failures to deliver a public Speech while he was in England. Finally, the essay says that Gandhiji's shyness became his shield.

A motion was brought for the removal of Dr. Allinson from the Vegetarian Society for his anti-puritanic views. Dr. Allinson's views regarding artificial methods of birth control were dangerous. Gandhi tried to speak for the first time in the public. He tried to support Dr. Allinson but Dr. Allinson lost the day.

Q3. What happened when Mr. Howard invited Gandhi to speak at a meeting? How did Gandhi feel about the incident?

Answer : "Shyness My Shield" is an essay written by Mahatma Gandhi. This essay was extracted from Gandhiji's autobiography "The Story of My Experiments with Truth" It tells about the initial fear of Gandhiji to deliver a public speech when he was a student in England. It gives different anecdotes of Gandhi's repeated attempts and failures to deliver a public speech while he was in England. Finally, the essay says that Gandhiji's shyness became his shield. Gandhi was invited by Mr. Howard to a meeting held at Ventnor. Gandhi was asked to speak for the promotion of vegetarianism. Gandhi tried to read a written speech. But he failed in this second attempt also. His vision blurred and he trembled and could not go further. Gandhi felt ashamed of himself and sad at heart for his incapacity.

Q4. What preparations for a speech did Gandhi make before he left England? How did the event end?

Answer: "Shyness My Shield" is an essay written by Mahatma Gandhi. This essay was extracted from Gandhiji's autobiography The Story of My Experiments with Truth It tells about the initial fear of Gandhiji to deliver a public speech when he was a student in England. It gives different anecdotes of Gandhiji's repeated attempts and failures to deliver a public speech while he was in England. Finally, the essay says that Gandhiji's shyness became his shield.

Gandhiji's last effort to make a public speech in England was on the eve of his departure for home (India). When he gave a dinner to his friends in the Holborn Restaurant, he tried to deliver a public speech. He started with a humorous anecdote. But, he failed to make an impression. So, he suddenly sat thanking the guests. Thus, Gandhi could not learn the art of public speaking while he was in England.

5. How does Gandhiji suggest that shyness can be strength rather than a weakness?

Answer : "Shyness My Shield" is an essay written by Mahatma Gandhi. This essay was extracted from Gandhiji's autobiography The Story of My Experiments with Truth It tells about the initial fear of Gandhiji to deliver a public speech when he was a student in England. It gives different anecdotes of Gandhi's repeated attempts and failures to deliver a public speech while he was in England. Finally, the essay says that Gandhiji's shyness became his shield.

Gandhi felt that his constitutional shyness/silence was not a disadvantage. It actually helped him to develop his personality by sticking to truth. His shyness taught him the economy of words. He learnt restraining his thoughts. He never uttered a thoughtless word in his life. He also felt that silence was a part of the spiritual discipline of a supporter/votary of truth. A man of few words will rarely be thoughtless in his speech; he will measure every word. He said that his shyness had judgement of truth. been his shield and buckler. It had allowed him to grow. It had helped him in his discernment/ Speech is silver. Silence is gold

Comprehension - 2

Answer the following questions in about 350-400 words.

1. When a serious question came up for discussion, Gandhi says, 'I thought it wrong to be absent, and felt it cowardice to register a silent vote, . What light does this throw on Gandhi's attitude to shyness? Discuss.

Answer: Shyness My Shield is an essay written by Mahatma Gandhi. This essay was extracted from Gandhiji's autobiography The Story of My Experiments with Truth It tells about the initial fear of Gandhiji to deliver a public



speech when he was a student in England. It gives different anecdotes of Gandhi's I am complex but Worthy repeated attempts and failures to deliver a public speech while he was in England. Finally, the essay says that Gandhiji's shyness became his shield.

In his Essay, "Shyness My Shield" M. K. Gandhi states that his shyness had helped him in his discernment of truth. When he was studying Law in England, he became a member of the Vegetarian Society. During the course of time, the Vegetarian Society faced a serious situation because of the differences between Mr. Hills and Dr. Allinson. Mr. Hills was the president of the Vegetarian Society. He was a puritan. He was a generous man and many members of the society were his protégés.

Dr. Allinson was another important member. He was advocating the 'new birth control movement'. He was preaching the birth control methods among the working classes. Mr. Hills regarded the activity of Dr. Allinson as against the morals preached by puritans. So, he wanted to remove him from the society. Gandhi also did not like the idea of Mr. Hills.

Mr. Hills brought a motion/ proposal to remove Dr. Allinson. Gandhi wanted to oppose the proposal of Mr. Hills. But, he did not have the courage to speak. So, he wrote down his thoughts on a piece of paper and took it to the meeting. He could not muster courage to read it. Someone else read his thoughts/ speech.

Gandhi's cowardice was at its height and he was not successful in expressing his opinion. This episode also reveals Gandhi's sense of righteousness.

Q2. Discuss the significance of title Shyness my shield in relation to Gandhiji's philosophy and principles?

Answer : Shyness My Shield is an essay written by Mahatma Gandhi. This essay was extracted from Gandhiji's autobiography The Story of My Experiments with Truth. It tells about the initial fear of Gandhiji to deliver a public speech when he was a student in England. It gives different anecdotes of Gandhi's repeated attempts and failures to deliver a public speech while he was in England. Finally, the essay says that Gandhiji's shyness became his shield.

Gandhi was a member of the Vegetarian Society when he was studying Law in England. He could not speak in the Executive Committee meetings of the society. He could not support Dr. Allinson, who favoured artificial birth control movement. Gandhi says that he suffered initially and later benefitted from shyness. When he was in London, he was embarrassed with his shyness. He failed to make any impression on his audience however hard he tried. He fumbled to speak in a meeting to promote vegetarianism at ventnor. He made himself ridiculous while speaking on the eve of his departure from London.

Gandhi says that his constitutional shyness has been no disadvantage at all. He admits that his shyness was once an annoyance and then a pleasure. Occasionally, his shyness put him in awkward situations, but it was all to his advantage.

The greatest benefit of his shyness or silence was that it had taught Gandhi the economy of words. Gandhi had naturally formed the habit of restraining his thoughts. A thoughtless word hardly ever escaped his tongue or pen. He found no occasion where he had to regret anything in his speech or writing. Thus, Gandhiji had been spared from many troubles and waste of time.

Experience had taught Gandhiji that silence was part of the spiritual discipline of a supporter of truth. He said that his shyness had been in reality his shield and buckler. Yes, I do agree with Gandhi's views on silence.

Speech is Silver. Silence is Gold

Q3. Gandhi says that his shyness eventually turned out to be a useful trait. Explain.

Answer: "Shyness My Shield" is an essay written by Mahatma Gandhi. This essay was extracted from Gandhiji's autobiography "The Story of My Experiments with Truth". It tells about the initial fear of Gandhiji to deliver a public speech when he was a student in England. It gives different anecdotes of Gandhi's repeated attempts and failures to deliver a public speech while he was in England. Finally, the essay says that Gandhiji's shyness became his shield.

When Gandhi was studying Law in England he used to feel incompetent to speak in the public. He became a member of the Vegetarian Society. When there were differences between Mr. Hills, the Chairman of the society and Dr. Allinson, Gandhi tried to speak for the first time in public, as the supporter of family planning methods. But he failed in his attempt of delivering a speech. Someone else read his speech. Gandhi felt ridiculous on his part.

In a meeting at Ventnor, he tried to read a written speech. But he failed in his second attempt also. His vision blurred and he could not proceed further. His last effort to make a public speech in England on the eve of his departure for India failed. He hosted a dinner to his friends in the Holborn Restaurant and tried to address them. He started with a humorous anecdote, but failed to make an impression. So, suddenly he sat thanking the guests. Thus, Gandhi could not learn the art of public speaking while he was in England. When he went to South Africa, he could learn the art of public speaking. He still had the fear in him.

Gandhi's views on shyness are a little complex as he suffered initially and later benefitted from shyness. His hesitancy in speech taught him economy of words. It helped him in restraining his thoughts. In the course of time, shyness turned out to be his advantage. He never uttered or wrote anything without giving proper thought. He says that silence is a part of spiritual discipline for a votary of truth. A man of few words never speaks thoughtlessly. He concludes that his shyness helped him to grow and also in his search for truth. It is his shield and buckler.