

I.SHORT QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS:

1. Comment on the contrast between the following:

(a) The grandmother and the father

(b) Baroda and Bombay.

Answer:

(a) The grandmother and the father

The grandmother was a powerful woman who believed in mythology and epics. She was a symbol of femininity, representing the past, religious beliefs, and conservatism. She talked about the trees as if they were holy, quoting saints and patriarchs.

The father was the man who was responsible for felling the banyan tree. He represented all that is masculine, dominant, forward-looking, and destructive.

(b) Baroda and Bombay

"The Felling of the Banyan Tree" explores a special time in the life of a sensitive speaker, when family roots were torn out when the old way of life had to give way to the new. Baroda represents the traditional way of life, followed by centuries like the Banyan tree standing in the same spot for centuries. Baroda can be compared to the grandmother who is religious and conservative. Bombay can be compared to a father who is progressive-minded and dominant.

Q2. How was the banyan tree different from the other trees? Describe it in your own words.

The Banyan tree was believed to be a sacred tree according to Hindu mythology. It is three times taller than the poet's house. Its trunk had a circumference of fifty feet. Its scraggly aerial roots (prop roots) fall to the ground. It was huge, tall, mighty, and sturdy. It gave shade and shelter to the birds. It was not easy to tumble it down. Fifty men with axes chopped it and the great tree revealed its age that it was two hundred years old through its rings.

Q3. What is Jugaad' and what does the author credit it with?

Covid-19 has affected the lives of people and it had an impact on everything. There are various reasons for the speedy response, according to the author, including a proactive attitude to saving people and crowdsourcing suggestions from the government. 'Jugaad', as defined by the author, is a frugal creative mindset that finds out hacks to issues/problems with limited resources (Finding solutions while avoiding waste and not overspending). He credits a pool of well-trained engineering expertise for fostering "jugaad."

Q4. Give two examples each of innovations that helped maintain (a) social distancing, and (b) public hygiene.

(a) Social Distancing

To help maintain social-distancing Marut Dronetech has partnered with state governments to test the use of drones to monitor social distancing rules. Drones are also used to deliver medical supplies and check people's temperature using thermal imaging.

(b) Public Hygiene

Public hygiene is another notable innovation. Start-ups like Aqoza technologies and PerSapien have developed chemical formulations that disinfect public spaces. Aqoza's approach, developed during an outbreak of the Nipah virus in Kerala, is a water-based sanitiser disinfectant

Q5.What is the tone of the first stanza? What point is the poet trying to make through the example of books?

The tone in the first stanza reflects a sense sanctity/respect. The poet says we should be gentle when turning the pages of the book that we read to acquire religious knowledge.

She refers to the time of British colonization during which the British oppressed the Indians. She also makes a reference to gods and books to talk about Indian culture. The poem also suggests "learning a new language' as one of the themes.

Q6.who is pan, and why does the poet suppose he might immigrated to India?

Pan is the ancient Greek god of the wild, and of shepherds and flocks. Pan is not dead, he simply immigrated to India, tells that the cultures and religions are transmitted across the globe. Pan symbolizes the pantheism existing in Indian religion where everything has a god in charge of it, even humans. Bhatt talks about the culture and lifestyle of moving with people by implying that Pan is not restricted to existing in one place but simply moved to India.

Q7. Paraphrase, in your own words, the speaker's description of the moonlit night.

He remembers a beautiful night walk back home with his friends, whom he "liked" and regarded as "like-minded." The night was a lovely night" as the "moon stood silent in the sky" and the clouds divided "to pay the homage to her worth. She adorned the dancing leaves with "silver weaves. The poet feels that such a night was one of those "happy spots of memory of his past which never burns or fades away but shines on gently

08. Explain what the speaker is trying to convey in the last three stanzas of the poem.

"A Walk by Moonlight" is a poem that not only recounts/recollects an experience, but also vividly conveys the impact of that experience on the poet's mind and heart. The effect is strong and overwhelming, and the encounter completely transforms his perspective. He remembers a beautiful night walk back home with his friends, whom he "liked" and regarded as "like-minded."

09. What does Lady Macbeth tell us about her husband's nature?

Macbeth is a Scottish general and the Thane of Glamis, who is led by wicked thoughts by the predictions of the three witches. Macbeth is a brave soldier and a powerful man, but who is

not easily tempted to murder King Duncan to fulfill his ambitions to the throne. According to his wife Macbeth is weak, full of "the milk of human kindness". His response to every problem is not violence and murder. However with his wife's compulsion and encouragement he commits Regicide and is filled with deep regret and guilt.

Q10. What is the 'golden round' that Lady Macbeth refers to? What 'impedes' Macbeth from it?

The "golden round" referred to by Lady Macbeth is "the crown", the kingship of promotion to the throne of Cawdor and Scotland. Macbeth is Duncan's kinsman, subject the details of his meeting with the witches. Moreover, the king is universally loved also brings the news of witches saluting admired as a virtuous ruler. Macbeth notes that these circumstances offer him nothing that he can use to motivate himself. He faces the fact that there is no reason to kill the king other than his own ambition, which he realizes is an unreliable guide/thought/ambition/act.

Q11. What lesson did Shaw learn about getting work done as part of a committee?

George Bernard Shaw (1856-1950) was one of the most famous Irish dramatists and orators of the twentieth century. He was a renowned critic and novelist. He was well known for his plays which dealt with the social vices which affect human lives. He was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature.

Q12. What did Shaw do with the money he received for his lectures? Why did he do what he did?

Shaw never accepted payment for speaking. Once Provincial Sunday Societies offered him ten guineas fee for the usual sort of lecture, avoiding controversial politics and religion. His fee was the price of his third-class railway ticket if the place was farther off. Otherwise, he would go at his own expense. The Sunday Society once offered him with the usual fee and expenses, but Shaw gave it back as a donation to the society. Once a man yelled at him thinking that Shaw was a hired professional but Shaw on the spot offered his emoluments of five pounds to him. The man who shouted at Shaw was shocked. Then, Shaw explained that he had come to this place to give lectures at his own expense and he never got any money for his speeches from the organizers.

LONG ANSWERS:

Q1. Could the banyan tree be seen as a symbol? If so, what do you think it might symbolise? Justify your answer with evidence from the text.

Dilip Chitre was a respected and versatile artist and filmmaker. He was a teacher, a painter, and a magazine columnist. He wrote both in English and Marathi. "The Felling of the Banyan Tree" is extracted from his "Travelling in a Cage", his first book of English poems. It is an autobiographical poem- his shifting from Baroda to Mumbai, leaving behind the memories and remembrances connected with the old paternal ancestral house.

"The Felling of the Banyan Tree" was written in the conversational style as an autobiographical poem. It is Dilip Chitre's exploration of a time when he was uprooted from Baroda to the modern city Mumbai. The banyan tree is a metaphor for his life, a symbol of the family's upheaval. It has a very strong bonding with the family and its generations as it is in the same spot for centuries.

In the shape of the banyan tree, there is the symbol of the family itself, the great rooted tree representing decades of living connection between earth and heaven. The great banyan is hacked at by dozens of men. It is helpless to resist. This felling of the tree is foretelling the future environmental hazards and upcoming effects of industrialization, new economics, and expanding population. Fifty men with axes chopped and chopped.

Q2. What is the attitude of the speaker towards the cutting down of the banyan tree? What lines and

The poet expresses two emotions—terror and fascination over the cutting down of the banyan tree. He feels very sorry and sad at the sight of the massive tree crashing to the ground. The old paternal ancestral house. The central theme is uprootedness, the idea of leaving a patriarchal ancestral home. Another theme is the disruption of the 'ecosystem' under the pretext of progress. In Baroda, the poet lived in the lap of nature happily. However, living in Bombay, he developed a nostalgia for the life he led in Baroda.

There is a feminine approach of the poet's grandmother, who acted as a spokesperson for nature. She attached a sacred aura/religious sentiment to the trees. Though the poet followed his grandmother's decision of not felling the trees, he could not resist his father's firm decision of chopping down the trees. The speaker mentions the names of the trees that are felled in a rather violent language "massacred" by his father. He feels that the great rooted tree has a strong and emotional connection with his family as it stood there for ages.

Q3. Both the banker and the lawyer make various choices during the course of the story. What are these choices, and what do these tell us about the persons making them?

Anton Chekhov's "The Bet" is a powerful short-story published in 1889 about a banker and a lawyer who make a bet with each other about the death penalty versus life in prison. In the story, there is a weird twist. A party was thrown at the banker's home, the banker challenged that the lawyer cannot withstand the solitary confinement even for five years. The young lawyer who is only five-and-twenty extended the bet to fifteen long continuous years. If he could last to the end of his sentence, the lawyer would receive two million rubles for winning the bet.

In the time between when the wager is made and when it ends, circumstances for the banker have turned for the worst. He has lost most of his fortune, and, as the deadline approaches, he realizes that this bet has the potential to ruin him. So, to save himself from bankruptcy, he developed a criminal idea to kill the lawyer. He hoped that the lawyer would break his vow and lose the bet. He doesn't even feel guilty or paranoid about his evil thoughts. He goes to investigate how the lawyer is doing at the end of the appointed night.

with the intention to kill him. To his surprise, he noticed a letter on the table. The banker found a letter which is written by the lawyer, declaring his intention to announce that he renounces the bet money and abstains from worldly wealth in favour of spirituality. To prove his seriousness he decides to leave the prison five hours before the appointed time.

He renounces his claim of the two million rubles, freeing the banker from his debt and financial crisis. The banker feels some contempt for himself but we don't have much textual evidence about his feelings. It is possible that the banker struggles with his decisions for the rest of his life or he forgets the lawyer in a few years' time.

Q4. Write a detailed character sketch of the banker. Is there any change in his character at any point in the story?

Anton Chekhov's "The Bet" is a powerful short-story published in 1889 about a banker and a lawyer who make a bet with each other about the death penalty versus life in prison. In the story, each wrestles with the idea of which is better or worse and in the culmination, there is a weird twist.

The banker is a greedy and avaricious businessman who uses his power and wealth to bring people under his control. At the beginning of the story, he freely risks two million rubles in the bet with the lawyer. He is an authoritarian, dominant businessman, who is materially obsessed. The young, wealthy banker thinks that capital punishment (death) is preferable to life imprisonment because he is privileged and irresponsible with millions beyond his means. He encourages and challenges the young lawyer, saying that two million rubles is nothing to him. His fortune was unimaginable fifteen years before. But now he needs to decide which is more important: his obligations or his assets. Desperate Stock Exchange gambling, crazy speculation/ wild guessing, and impatience had gradually lost his money. The proud, bold, and self-assured millionaire had turned into a poor banker, frightened with every rise and fall in his assets. He makes the decision to protect his fortune at all costs.

The banker resolves to kill the lawyer the night before the bet is to be settled, fearing that the lawyer will become wealthy and successful with his money, while he will become a beggar. The banker was overwhelmed with guilt and disgust after receiving the lawyer's note and learning what he had gone through physically and psychologically, and his tears and emotion kept him from sleeping for hours.

05. Write a character sketch of the speaker in the poem "A Walk by Moonlight" /

"A Walk by Moonlight" by Henry Derozio awakens our conscience. His casual walk on a moonlit night makes him question life and introspect as well. The poem starts with pleasant memories of the previous night. He contemplates that in the future when he is in turmoil and anxiety he can find solace and comfort from these past experiences. Enchanted by nature's beauty, the poet becomes philosophical. He identifies with what is magical in the night and is enslaved by its spell. He believes that man and nature have a mysterious relationship. When he is touched and enriched by nature, he becomes spiritual and connected with nature, and he feels proud of his uniqueness. He becomes more aware and

awake. When he reaches a climax in his experience - a moment of deep spiritual insight and heightened sensitivity he feels, he cannot "crush" the grass beneath his feet because he can "hear" its heart "beat."

Q6. Discuss the realizations that come upon the speaker during his walk.

The poem "A Walk by Moonlight" not only recounts/recollects an experience but also an intensely describes the effect of such an experience on his mind and heart. The effect is profound an overwhelmingly impressive and the experience radically changes his perception. He describe

His walk back home on a moonlit night with his friends whom he "loved" and respected in considered like-minded.

The poem "A Walk by Moonlight" describes the stages of the awakening of the senses a casual walk with friends gives him a strange experience. He becomes enriched as his deeper see are stirred and it turns out into something more than just an appreciation of a moonlight walk makes him philosophical to search for life's meaning in everything around him. It leads him note of introspection and reflection. There is a sudden shift from the description of scenic beauty philosophical awakening.

The poet views nature-night wind, stars, The moon- not as inanimate but as full of life. The bliss of heaven is experienced here on earth by the poet. He feels that his human heart is "bound" to everything and identifies himself with all the parts of nature. He develops a se communion/belongingness and inter connectedness with the whole of nature.

Q7. What is your impression of Lady Macbeth based on reading this extract

Lady Macbeth is one of the most powerful female characters in literature. In the soliloquy, she secks her feminine characteristics and wishes that her nourishing mother's milk may be converted gall/bitterness. She bids the spirits to deprive her of her femininity, to thicken her blood and to deep her ability to weep. When her husband is hesitant/unwilling to murder Duncan she pesters troubled) by questioning/challenging his manhood. Throughout the play, whenever Macbeth faltering, Lady Macbeth implies that he is less than a man. She is bold and masculine, heroic and warrior like, solely concerned with immediate power.

Lady Macbeth is the driving force behind Macbeth to act-she is the will propelling his achievements. She does not hide her feelings like Macbeth. She is simply practical. Lady Macbeth might be trolled by witches-super natural powers leading her to evil. When we first see her she is already plotting regicide (murder of a King), she is stronger, more

ruthless/merciless and more ambitious than her husband. Lady Macbeth persuades her husband to kill King Duncan and it is she who constantly strengthens her husband's nerves after the murder has been committed. She is generally depicted as the Epitome/miniature world of evil. She lacks all humanity and her burning ambition to be the queen has made her go beyond her feminine qualities/female instincts.

Q8.What kind of a relationship do you think Macbeth and Lady Macbeth share with each other? How can you tell?

There is a strong verbal bond between husband and wife that continues throughout the play. They are "partners in crime" from the starting of the act-1 scene-5 is a monologue, Lady Macbeth appears on the stage throughout her speech. As lady Macbeth is well aware of the promotion of Macbeths Thane of Cawdor and King of Scotland after reading the letter sent by her husband. She also knows about his meeting with the witches and their prophecy. When she is informed about the royal visit of King Duncan to their Castle, she makes up her mind to carry out the murder of the King in order to fulfill (hasten) the prophecy.

When Macbeth enters his castle, his wife greets him using the exact words of the witches and reveals her plans to him. She suggests that her husband is too kind and compassionate and full of "the milk of human kindness". Equally significantly, he sets up Lady Macbeth as his "dearest partner of greatness. She will indeed become his partner in crime, but much more than that she is responsible for controlling Macbeth's passions and his actions.

Macbeth tells his wife that the King wants to spend that night and wants to depart the next day. But Lady Macbeth declares that the king will never see the sun tomorrow. She consoles/ comforts her husband to have patience and to leave her to the execution plan. She has adopted the role of "man of action", forcing her husband into the more passive role of accomplice. She calls upon the night to hide her actions in a "blanket of darkness". These words reflect those of Macbeth in the previous scene. Again I will confirm there is a strong verbal bond between husband and wife that continues throughout the play. They are "partners in crime"

Q9. What do you think is the central theme of the poem? A different Story” How are the two stanzas related to this theme?

"A Different History" is a poem by Sujata Bhatt that deals with identity, particularly one's cultural identity, in a post-colonial setting, especially in India. Power and language are linked with each other in the poem, and how an oppressor's (Britishers) language is imposed upon the suppressed. The poet discusses the influence of other cultures through colonization and how it affects the local language and thought as the central theme.

The first stanza is more formal and polite than the second one. It talks about languages as art and their significance in the religious beliefs of the Hindus. The poet is trying to establish the great respect for knowledge that the Indian culture has towards scripts and holy books. The ancient goddess Sarasvati, who is responsible for knowledge and art lives in books, according to the belief of the poet. Even the paper that the books are made from the wood of trees, should not be defiled. She considers trees sacred according to her religious belief.

The second stanza is an assertive section of the poem, in which Bhatt uses rhetorical questions to make her point to the reader. This stanza again discusses language as a weapon, emphasizing the violent tone of the poem. It forms an essential part of the poem's theme reflecting on oppressors and the oppressed and the loss of language and culture. The way she questions implies that every culture and language has been the oppressor or the oppressed at some point of time in the history of the world.

The first stanza is about those who are unaffected by globalization and Western culture. It is about those who have kept their "native" culture alive. The second stanza is for people who have chosen to migrate and are compelled to or prefer international or Western countries/cultures.

Q10. What do you think the title of the poem means? How does it connect to the poem?

The poem "A Different History" tells us about a different language. It portrays how a poem change of culture affects the people of a country. This is when a foreign rule forces you to adapt to their culture and traditions. She depicts the clash between cultures and also shows the process of colonization and its effects in a very lucid manner, which helps the audience to have an impression of what was going through Bhatt's mind as she was writing this poem.

The title of the poem relates to different histories, different cultural backgrounds, and also the poet's own past. It can also be said about history itself, especially the Indian and the Greek civilizations are centuries old. As she was moving from country to country as a child, she is perhaps recollecting how life would have been if she had never left India - a history that might be different from the one, she had experienced. Throughout the poem, we see Bhatt as a confused person about her identity. The irregular form of the poem makes us feel the agony of losing her mother tongue and her identity.

The poet there discusses the effects of colonization and, for that matter, globalization. In any case, she discusses a dramatic shift in society's mindset and how we should endeavor to preserve it. She also discusses the loss of culture that comes with globalization, as well as the loss of a portion of our history as we reject the old culture's and heritage's teachings. It's possible that this is why she chose the title 'A Different History' for her poem

Q11: What is the central theme of "The Necklace"?

The central theme of "The Necklace" is the destructive nature of materialism and the consequences of living beyond one's means. The story highlights the societal pressure to keep up appearances and the devastating effects of pride and vanity. Mathilde's obsession with the necklace and her desire to fit in with the aristocracy ultimately lead to her downfall, illustrating the dangers of prioritizing material possessions over personal happiness.

Through Mathilde's character, Maupassant critiques the social class system of his time, where people were judged based on their appearance and material possessions. The story shows how this Maupassant's portrayal of the bourgeoisie highlights their pretensions, superficiality, and lack of authenticity emphasis on superficiality can lead to a never ending cycle of desire and dissatisfaction. Mathilde's tragic fate serves as a warning about the dangers of letting materialism consume one's life.

Furthermore, the story explores the theme of the "bourgeoisie" and the rise of the middle class in 19th-century France. Mathilde and her husband, Monsieur Loisel, are part of this emerging middle class, and their desire to ascend the social ladder drives the plot of the story.

Q12: What is the significance of the twist ending in "The Necklace"?

The twist ending, in which it is revealed that the necklace was actually a fake, serves to underscore the themes of the story. Mathilde's suffering and sacrifice were all for nothing, as the necklace was not even genuine. This revelation highlights the emptiness and superficiality of and superficiality of the societal values that Mathilde had aspired to.

The twist also adds a layer of irony to the story, as Mathilde's attempt to project a false image of wealth and status ultimately led to her own financial and emotional ruin. The fake necklace serves as a symbol of the artificial and superficial nature of the aristocratic society that Mathilde had sought to join. The twist ending drives home the message that true happiness and fulfillment cannot be achieved through material possessions or social status. Moreover, the twist ending raises questions about the nature of reality and appearance.

The necklace, which had seemed so real and valuable to Mathilde, is revealed to be a fake. This revelation challenges the reader to think critically about the societal norms and values that govern our lives. It also highlights the tension between appearance and reality, a theme that is central to much of Maupassant's work.

Q13. Based on what you have read, trace the development of Shaw as a public speaker.

Shaw went to the meeting at Zetetical society with his friend Lecky. It was his first experience. There was a debate going on. Shaw unable to resist the temptation started speaking something irrelevant. He felt ashamed of it. So, he decided to join the society and

attended every meeting. In the beginning, his speeches were not encouraged but for the third meeting he was made the chairman of the meeting. He improved his speaking techniques progressively through hard work and sheer perseverance. Shaw secured the freedom of speech by visiting all kinds of meetings held in London. He joined and spoke in all the debates. He spoke in streets, parks, societies, clubs, and associations in London. He never missed an opportunity. Slowly, he overcomes his stage night/bear. (Fear of speaking in public).

Shaw got over his stage fright and nervousness through regular practice. He delivered speeches on various themes till he was ninety-five and was active till his death. All his speeches were highly commanding. His socialist views were reformatory and made people aware of the social conditions of London.

Q14. Do you feel nervous when faced with the prospect of speaking in public? Write a few paragraphs on what you can do to improve your own public speaking skills, based on shortcomings that you have identified in your abilities.

Yes, any person will feel nervous when asked to speak in public (at least for the first time). At some point in time we will be asked to speak in public, maybe at school, at college, or at the workplace, it is inevitable. The best course of action is to prepare for it.

There are three essential skills for good public speaking Voice Modulation, Body Language, and Storytelling. One should develop these skills. Voice modulation is all about voice control. How do you say certain words and communicate an idea? Gestures and facial expressions are very important for a public speaker. We have to match our face and behaviour to the words we are speaking. Being a great storyteller is paramount for being a good public speaker. Telling stories in a captivating manner is an asset.

It's more of a skill than talent to be able to talk in public. Being a good presenter requires time and effort. The art of public speaking is all about conveying a message to a group of people. It entails the use of a variety of talents in order to successfully communicate our message to the audience. There must be a connection between the speaker and the listener, it is more than merely standing in front of an audience and delivering some words.

Q15. What factors are common to most (if not all) of the innovations listed in this essay? Discuss these common factors.

India witnessed a wave of innovations during the pandemic Social - distancing and contact tracing have become the buzzwords around the world in response to Covid-19, to stop the virus from spreading in public places - airports, bus stations, etc., will be a particular problem once lockdown begins to ease. Asimor Robotics, a start-up from Kerala has deployed robots at the entrances of office buildings. They dispense hand sanitizer and deliver public health messages. They also carry food and medicines to hospital isolation wards.

The Indian govt. launched Aarogya Setu to inform people about the risk of government launched exposure. KlinikApp and Practo provide tests at home. Nocca Robotics, Aerobiosys Innovations and AgVa Healthcare are easy-to-use, and portable ventilators that can be installed even in rural areas of India. The developing low-cost hygiene of public places is another notable innovation.

According to the author, the common factors for most innovations are the active involvement of engineering volunteers from universities, Industries start-ups, and the government in response to the Covid-19. However, there are other enabling factors that are particularly important as well. First, the intermediary organisations working towards bringing all the three parties together. For example, the Department of Science and Technology of the national government has established a task group to map COVID-19 related technologies developed by start-ups. It is also sponsoring start-ups that are working on key breakthroughs, such as rapid viral diagnostics.

016. Do you agree with the proverb "Necessity is the mother of invention"? How valid is the saying in the context of this essay? Give a few examples of deployed. an urgent need driving innovation.

Yes, the proverb "Necessity is the mother of invention" is very much true in the context of Covid-19. It clearly depicts the emergency situation posed by the Covid-19 pandemic and the innovations made to combat its effects as it is a life-threatening disease, entrepreneurs, innovators, and scientists across India have responded quickly as the saying goes "a stitch in time saves nine". To face the challenge posed by the Covid-19 pandemic, a host of innovations emerged from start-ups supported by universities. This is an emergency of the humanitarian situation and people have to respond based on humanitarian grounds. People resorted to *jugaad*-a resource to tackle a problem with limited resources. India has a wealth of trained engineering talent and they were able to succor the aid of suffering people.

As Covid-19 is a highly infectious ailment/disease, proper sanitization, public hygiene, and ventilators are urgently needed, and awareness among people must be propagated. People can't risk their lives living in dark/ignorance. The government, scientists, entrepreneurs, and innovators have rushed to the aid of people by developing, a tracking app called Aarogya Setu, to safeguard people from the infection/virus. Klinik App and Practo are some of the apps providing Covid-19 tests for people. Ventilators even in rural India on low-cost, easy to use, and portable are supplied and start-ups like Aqoza technologies and Persapien developed chemical formulations that disinfect public spaces. "Airlens Minis Corona" from Persapien, a machine dispenses ionised water droplets to oxidise the viral protein. All these innovations are attended to and developed on a war-foot basis to fight and overcome the dire effects of the pandemic.

