

## English 2019 Abroad Set-1

1. This paper is divided into three sections: A, B and C.
  2. All the sections are compulsory.
  3. Read the instructions very carefully given with each section and question and follow them faithfully.
  4. Do not exceed the prescribed word limit while answering the questions.
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### Question 1

Read the passage given below carefully and answer the questions that follow:

1. "But have you been to Nimtita? Have you been to the place there?" asked the old man in the tea-shop, with the thatched roof. we were in the village of Lalgola, one hundred and fifty miles from Kolkata, and we had just seen our thirteenth nobelman's place and found it unsuitable.
2. "Nimtita? Where is that?" we asked without much interest. we had never heard of the place. "It is sixty miles to the North of here. you drive up the highway. Then You come to a river which you have to cross. A ferry will take your car across. Then up the highway again for twenty miles. A sign tells you were to branch off.... it's on the river Padma, on the eastern bank. it's the palace of the Choudharys. I've been listening to your talk, and I feel you ought to see this one before you give up.
3. We were not very hopeful. We had had enough trouble talking free advice from people who had no idea of our needs. Anyway, the questions was : do we or do we not undertake this last trip? If we did not like the palace, it might mean either giving up making this film altogether, or seriously changing its nature. We tossed a coin to decide whether to go or not. The coin said, 'Go!' and we set out on our sixty-miles journey.
4. It was when I was in bed with my right leg in plaster that I had decided the film on Tarasankar Banerjee's famous short story, 'The Music Room' (jalsaghar). A nasty fall on the stone steps at Banaras had brought about a serious knee journey. I lay in bed and read all the Bengali books I could lay my hands on. Just then, the film distributors were not too keen to take my film or distribution, and may be this was one of the things that made me choose 'The music Room'.
5. Here was a dramatic story which could naturally bring in music and dancing, and distributors loved music and dancing. But here, too, was a story full of feelings. So it would be satisfying for me as an artist. I would cast Chabi Biswas, our greatest actor, in the leading role of the zamindar - the zamindar whose love of the big musical entertainments brings about his ruin. But the most important thing was to find a palace.



As we had a low budget, there was no question of having studio-built sets. I knew that, if we had the money, my art director could easily build a set which looked like our old palace with the right style. But we just didn't have the money for it.

6. Nimtita turned out to be everything that the old man had claimed - and more. No one could have described in words the feeling of utter sadness that surrounded the palace. the river padma had changed its course over the years, so that now there were endless stretches of sand where once had been villages. The palace itself - Greek pillars and all - was a perfect realization of my dream image. it had somehow escaped being totally destroyed when the river changed its course. The river had reached within ten yards of the front of the place - having swallowed the garden - and then stopped. Ganendra Narayan Choudhary, who is seventy and owns a British title and the palace, told us how it happened : "We were having breakfast one morning when we heard a low rumble. We went out to the verandah and saw a big chunk of our estate - almost a square mile of it - going under water, disappearing forever. it all happened in a few seconds. Padma's appetite is legendary."

7. "But aren't you afraid that the river might encroach further?"

8. "Oh, yes, the rains bring with them the usual fears."

9. On returning from our first trip to Nimtita , I telephoned the author, Mr. Banerji. he had been just as anxious about the location as we were.

10. "we've found our palace at last, Mr. Banerji," I said.

11. "Have you? And where is it?"

12. "At a little known place called Nimtita."

13. "Nimtita? There was a note of recognition in his voice." You don't mean the palace of the Choudharys, do you?"

14. "That's the one."

15. "But that's extraordinary ! I haven't been to Nimtita myself, but I have read about the Choudharys in a history of Bengal zamindars, and it was the music-loving Upendra Narayan Choudhary who served as the model for my rajah."

1.1 On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, answer each of the questions given below by choosing the most appropriate option.

(a) The writer of the passage is a \_\_\_\_\_ by profession.

- (i) painter
- (ii) filmmaker
- (iii) photographer

(iv) journalist

(b) What helped the author and his friends to decide whether or not to go to Nimtita?

- (i) the suggestion made by the old man at the tea-shop
- (ii) their own intuitive feeling
- (iii) description of the palace in a travel book
- (iv) tossing of a coin

(c) Why was the idea of building a set for shooting given up?

- (i) Shooting at a set would not give a real life effect.
- (ii) They didn't have money for a set.
- (iii) Building a set is very time consuming.
- (iv) Shooting at the actual palace would be more authentic.

(d) Who is the central character in the story, 'The Music Room'?

- (i) A local raja
- (ii) A zamindar
- (iii) A British official
- (iv) An artist

(e) What did the author like most about the palace?

- (i) facilities for the visitors
- (ii) wood carvings at the ceiling
- (iii) its huge central hall
- (iv) its Greek pillars

### 1.2 Answer the following questions briefly:

- (a) What suggestion did the old man at the tea-shop make to the author and his friends?
- (b) Why did the author not like the idea of taking free advice?
- (c) How did the author sustain a serious injury?
- (d) What brought about the ruin of the zamindar in the story, 'The Music Room'?
- (e) Who was Ganendra Narayan Choudhary?
- (f) How did Mr. Banerji react to the information about the palace?

### 1.3 Answer any three of the following questions in 25 - 30 words each:

- (a) why did the author choose the story, 'The Music Room' for his film?
- (b) How do you know that reaching Nimtita was not easy?
- (c) What havoc did the river Padma cause when it changed its course?
- (d) How had the palace escaped being totally destroyed?

**1.4 Find Words/Phrases from the passage which are similar in meaning to each of the following:**

- (a) main (para 5)
- (b) nobility (para 6)
- (c) concerned (para 9)

**SOLUTION:**

1.1

- (a) (ii) filmmaker
- (b) (iv) tossing of coin
- (c) (ii) They didn't have money for a set.
- (d) (ii) A zamindar
- (e) (iv) its Greek pillars

1.2

- (a) The old man at the tea-shop suggested that the author and his friends visit Nimitita.
- (b) The author did not like the idea of taking free advice because they had had enough trouble already taking free advice from people who had no idea of their needs.
- (c) The author had sustained a serious knee injury by having a nasty fall on the stone steps at Banaras.
- (d) The zamindar's love of the big musical entertainments had brought about his ruin.
- (e) Ganendra Narayan Choudhary was a seventy years old man who owned a British title and the palace.
- (f) Mr. Banerji reacted in a tone filled with recognition. He exclaimed that it was extraordinary as he had read about the Choudharys in a history of Bengal zamindars and it was the music-loving Upendra Narayan Choudhary who served as the model for his rajah.

1.3

- (a) The film distributors were not too keen to take his film for distribution, and may be this was one of the things that made him choose 'The Music Room' for his film.
- (b) Reaching Nimitita required the author to travel sixty miles to the north of where he

was, drive up the highway, then come to a river which he had to cross in a ferry and finally twenty miles up the highway. Thus, it wasn't easy.

(c) There were endless stretches of sand, where there had been villages, the river had reached within ten yards of the front of the palace – having swallowed the garden – and then stopped. A square mile of the verandah had submerged under water and all this happened due to the river changing its course.

(d) The palace had escaped being totally destroyed because the river Padma had changed its course and thus, vast stretches of sand lay in front of the palace.

1.4

- (a) leading
- (b) dignity
- (c) anxious

### Question 2

Read the passage given below carefully answer the questions that follow :

1. Physical education which is commonly part of the curriculum at school level includes training in the development and care of the human body and maintaining physical fitness. Physical education is also about sharpening overall cognitive abilities and motor skills via athletics, exercise and various other physical activities like martial arts and dance.

2. Physical education promotes the importance of inclusion of a regular fitness activity in the routine. This helps the students to maintain their fitness, develop their muscular strength, increase their stamina and thus stretch their physical abilities to an optimum level. Physical fitness helps them to inculcate the importance of maintaining healthy body, which in turn keeps them happy and energized.

3. Participating in sports, be it team sports or dual and individual sports, leads to a major boost in self-confidence. The ability to go on the field and perform instills a sense of self-confidence, which is very important for the development of a person's character, Every victory achieved on the field, helps to boost a person's self-confidence. Moreover, the ability to accept defeat on the field and yet believe in your capabilities brings a sense of positive attitude as well.

4. Physical education classes are about participating in the physical fitness and recreation activities, but they are also about learning the overall aspects of Physical health. For example, in today's world the problems of obesity, or anaemia and bulimia are common amongst teenagers. Physical education provides an excellent opportunity for teachers to promote the benefits of healthy and nutritious food and warn against the ill effects of junk food. Promoting sound eating practices and guidelines for nutrition are some of the very valuable lessons that can be taught through physical education classes at school level.

5. Participation in team sports and even dual sports helps to imbibe a sense of team spirit amongst the students. While participating in team sports, the children have to function as an entire team, and hence they learn how to organize themselves and function together. This process of team building hones a person's overall communication skills and the ability to get along with different people.

6. Participation in sports and physical education activities helps to sharpen the reflexes of the students. It also brings order and discipline to the body movements and helps in development of a sound body posture. The hand-eye coordination improves as well.

7. Physical education classes also include lessons about the importance of personal hygiene and importance of cleanliness. Thus, these classes help the students to know the important hygiene practices that must be practised in order to maintain health and wellness throughout life.

8. Physical education classes help to enhance the overall cognitive abilities of the students, since they get a knowledge of the different kinds of sports and physical activities that they participate in. For example, a person who is participating in a specific type of martial arts class, will also gain knowledge of the origins of the martial arts, and the other practices and historical significance associated with it.

2.1 On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, make notes on it using headings and subheadings. Use recognizable abbreviations (wherever necessary - minimum four) and a format you consider suitable. Also supply an appropriate title to it.

2.2 Write a summary of the above passage in about 100 words.

### SOLUTION:

2.1

#### NOTE MAKING

#### Importance of Physical Education

1. Benefits of physical education

1.1 Part of curriculum – includes training & dev.

1.2 Sharpening cognitive skills, motor skills through athletics, martial arts, etc.

1.3 Promotes inclusion of a regular fitness activity routine

1.4 Helps students maintain fitness, develop muscle strength, increase stamina

1.5 Helps in maintaining healthy body, keep happy and energized.

2. Physical education for self confidence

2.1 Participating in individual, dual or team sports boosts confidence

2.2 Helps in building a person's character

2.3 It teaches sportsmanship and ability to accept defeat with positive attitude



- 2.4 Phy. Edu. teaches overall aspects of physical health
- 2.5 Helps in keeping away diseases & health issues like obesity, anaemia, etc.
- 2.6 Promotes healthy eating and tells about ill effects of junk food

### 3. Social & mental benefits

- 3.1 Participation in sports helps develop team spirit and team building skills
- 3.2 Helps in developing social skills and comm. abilities
- 3.3 Helps sharpen reflexes
- 3.4 Brings order, discipline and synchronization to body movements & postures

### 4. Physical education for health & hygiene

- 4.1 Promotes importance of cleanliness; undertake hygiene practices
- 4.2 Develop cognitive abilities
- 4.3 Gain knowledge of origin & historical practices associated with an activity

#### Key

- 1. dev. – development
- 2. etc. – etcetera
- 3. Phy. Edu. – Physical Education
- 4. comm. - communication

2.2 Physical education is extremely important in a student's life. It not only benefits the child in physical aspects but also improves mental fitness and social well-being. It helps in developing team building skills and sportsman's spirit along with other soft skills such as good communication and gestures. Physical education is beneficial as it promotes healthy living, discourages eating of junk food and improving health. It helps in improving cognitive skills and hand & body coordination. Physical education has other benefits such as it helps us know the origin and history of different art forms and skills. Thus, it improves knowledge as well.

#### Question 3

You are Nainai/Nachaobi Kom, Headboy/Headgirl of Loktak High School, Manipur. Your school wishes to honour an old student of your school, the famous boxer Mary Kom for all her numerous achievements by inviting her to the school Annual Day as the Chief Guest. Write a formal invite in not more than 50 words to be sent to Mary Kom requesting her presence on the occasion.

**OR**

You are Vinayak/Revati from the Green School, Thoothukudi. You read an article about the proposed garbage segregation programme in the neighbourhood, which is set to begin from next week. You decide to make a poster telling your neighbourhood about the programme and the value of garbage segregation. Draft the poster to be put up in your neighbourhood. (50 words)

**SOLUTION:**

The Principal, Staff and Students  
of  
Loktak High School, Manipur  
cordially invite you to be the Chief Guest for the

**ANNUAL DAY CELEBRATION**

at

**SIRI FORT AUDITORIUM**

on

20 March, 2019

at

6.00 PM

**RSVP**

Nainai,  
Headgirl  
Loktak High School,  
Manipur

Phone: 1234567890

**OR**



## GARBAGE SEGREGATION DRIVE

Know your garbage type  
and  
put it in the right bin to keep the environment safe

Hello! I am green,

I keep your city clean.

Hello! I am blue,  
I keep you away from from flu.



### Question 4

You are Rodrigues/Maria, Principal of Sea View Senior Secondary School, Vasco da Gama. Your school needs to formulate and submit an evacuation plan by the end of the month. You are clueless about how this is to be done. You write a letter in 120 - 150 words to the State Disaster Management Authority, Goa asking them for advice and help on how to formulate a disaster evacuation drill for 1500 students.

OR

The Gandhi foundation is recruiting graduates for an intensive leadership-training programme during the summer, in villages across India. You are Anjana/Benji from 21, Ratnapur Village, Bilaspur. You are very excited to see the advertisement and decide to apply for the same. Draft a letter in 120 - 150 words applying for the advertised programme. Include a biodata showing how suitable you are for the training.

### SOLUTION:

Maria  
Sea View Senior Secondary School  
Vasco da Gama

Goa – 220033

2nd March 2019

The Director  
State Disaster Management Authority  
Goa – 220044

Dear Sir/ Madam

Subject: Seeking advice on formulation of disaster evacuation drill

I am Maria, the principal of Sea View Senior Secondary School, Vasco da Gama. The school needs to formulate and submit an evacuation plan by the end of the month, however, we would require your help in doing the same.

It is a humble request that you guide us through and help us with the formulation of a disaster evacuation drill for 1500 students. As we have no idea about the process and important steps to be taken care of, we have not been able to chalk out a reasonable plan. Thus, kindly write to us about the measures which need to be taken and the gear to be bought for the drill.

Hope to hear from you soon. Thanking you in anticipation!

Yours truly  
Maria  
Principal - Sea View Senior Secondary School

**OR**

Anjana  
21, Ratnapur Village, Bilaspur

2nd March 2019

The Gandhi Foundation  
Bilaspur

Dear Sir/ Madam

Subject: Application for Intensive Leadership-training Programme

I'm Anjana, a graduate in Human Resource Management from Bilaspur University. I wish to apply for the leadership-training programme in your reputed foundation. I came to know about the opportunity through the newspaper "The Times of India" dated February 28, 2019.



Please find my curriculum vitae attached for the purpose. I would like to add that I am a very hard working girl with a keen interest in this programme. My academic qualification, age and other eligibility conditions agree to those specified by the foundation for the training programme.

I thank you in anticipation for an early response.

Yours truly,  
Anjana  
Enclosure: Curriculum Vitae

### Curriculum Vitae

**Name:** Anjana

**Address:** 21, Ratnapur Village, Bilaspur

**Telephone number:** 9900000000

**E-mail ID:** abc@pqmail.com

**Date of birth:** 3rd January 1995

#### Academic Qualification:

Board/University	Subjects	Year	Division
H.S.C	Science	2017	Ist

**Degree in:** Human Resource Management from ABC University, Bilaspur

**Skills:** People management, bookkeeping and CMS management

**Languages known:** English and Hindi

**Achievements:** Gold medallist in business management

**References:** (names of people in positions like your school Principal who can certify your character and conduct)

#### Question 5

The recent killing of Avni, the tigress which had two 10-month-old cubs has disturbed you. You realize that human encroachment and the greed of land grabbing companies are the cause of this. Write an article in 150 -200 words to be published in 'The National Times' about your concern and the need to take urgent action to stop the decline in the number of tigers in India. You are Amit/Ambika Shukla.



OR

You are Veer/Priti. You are a resident of Chandigarh. You are very concerned about the deteriorating air quality in the northern part of India. You realize that the rising amount of construction work, burning of leaves and garbage, and the lack of both wind and rain are major causes of this state. Write a speech in 150 - 200 words which you will deliver at the school assembly on the occasion of Diwali, in which you voice your concern about the situation.

**SOLUTION:**

### **Save Our National Animal – Tiger**

There has been an alarming rate of decrease in the number of tigers at various national parks and in the country as a whole.

Few years back when I visited the Jim Corbett National Park, I got to see a large population of tigers in this place. But this time when I visited this place, I found that there was a huge decrease in the number of tigers. The killing of tiger Avni has disturbed me deeply. One of the major reasons behind this declination is the loss of their habitat. It can be easily found that the forest area has decreased in last few years.

Due to this decrease in forest area, the prey species population has also decreased and this can easily be linked to the decrease in the number of tigers. Also, the tigers often move out of their habitat in search of food and thus, humans feel the need to kill them. Some other factors such as degradation of habitats, illegal wildlife trade and lack of protection infrastructure has also caused the decrease in the number of tigers. We need to have a strict system to prevent the trade of tigers and also to preserve their habitat.

OR

### **Deteriorating Air Quality in Delhi**

'Green Chandigarh, Clean Chandigarh', we have come across this slogan many times but our dearest city is neither clean nor green. Good morning one and all, today I Priti, stand before you to voice my concerns and opinions on this issue.

The number of vehicles on city roads is increasing every day. The green cover of the city is reducing due to felling of trees, building of housing complexes and malls. There is continuous use of gadgets like air conditioners, factories spew out harmful fumes and gases. Also, there has been a drop in the wind speed and the amount of rainfall the city receives each year. All this has led to an alarming increase in air pollution in Chandigarh and all of north India.

This causes many respiratory diseases like asthma, bronchitis, etc. The pollutants irritate the eyes and skin. We must address this problem urgently: reduce the use of vehicles, use alternate sources of energy in place of fossil fuels, use car pools or public transport to go to work, etc. We must get pollution test done for our automobiles. Being



a responsible citizen of the city, we must not burn crackers this Diwali. The government should put heavy fines on factories and industries that pollute the air. Tree plantation must be done and parks must be maintained.

### Question 6

The eminent psychologist, Dr. Madhumita was invited by your school authorities to speak to the students on the topic, 'How to maintain robust mental health'. She delivered a lively speech without using any medical technical terms. After the lecture the students asked many questions especially about how to cope with stress during examinations. Dr. Madhumita addressed their concerns very patiently and gave them some very useful tips. Write a report in 150 - 200 words for your school magazine describing the session with the psychologist. You are Noor/Hilal Head-girl/Head-boy, National School, Sonapat.

OR

The Nilgiris Senior Secondary School is holding an interschool debate on the topic, 'School bullies are a menace; they should be expelled'. You will be participating from your school in the debate. Write your debate in 150 -200 words choosing a stand *for* or *against* the motion.

### SOLUTION:

#### **Session with Eminent Psychologist Dr. Madhumita**

Noor, Head Girl  
Sonapat, 24th February, 2019

This year our school, invited eminent psychologist Dr. Madhumita to deliver a speech on 'How to maintain robust mental health'. The psychologist delivered a lively speech without using any medical terms which made it easy for the students to understand the importance and techniques to maintain mental health. The speech was followed by a 'talk wit the expert' session, where the doctor answered all the questions of the students and even gave them useful tips. The event was a successful one and was attended by students and teachers with equal enthusiasm. The doctor addressed concerns such as academic stress and threw light upon how it affects not only the health and wellbeing but also social relations and performance in the competitive world. The session was concluded with a vote of thanks from the principal of our school.

OR

#### **School Bullies are a Menace, They Should be Expelled**

Bullying involves actions that cause physical or emotional pain to the person bullied. It is unfortunate, that most of the times such incidents are ignored as being normal things kids experience. Bullying affects the person bullied, the ones who witnessed the

incident, and anyone related to the incident.

It should be dealt with through utmost seriousness and sincerity as it involves immense emotional suffering and might need therapy to better things. Not only does it lead to negative health but can also cause depression, anxiety, eating or sleeping disorders, decreased academic achievement, among other negative impacts.

Parents and elders can help children deal with bullying by giving them confidence, teaching them ways to deal with bullies and helping them to bring them to notice. Remember, bullies are successful only because we let them exercise power over us: whether it is physical, mental or emotional. Thus, it has been rightly said that school bullies are a menace and to curb this problem it is important to have a strict action against them and expel them from school.

### Question 7

Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:

... On their slag heap, these children  
Wear skins peeped through by bones and spectacles of steel  
With mended glass, like bottle bits on stones.  
All of their time and space are foggy slum.  
So blot their maps with slums as big as doom.

- (a) Name the poem and the poet.
- (b) Which image is used to describe the poverty of these children?
- (c) What sort of life do these children lead?

**OR**

but soon  
put that thought away, and  
looked out at young,  
trees sprinting, the merry children spilling  
out of their homes.

- (a) Name the poem and the poet.
- (b) What thought did the poet put away?
- (c) Why are the young trees described as sprinting?
- (d) How do you know that the joyful scene did not help her drive away 'that thought' from her mind?

### SOLUTION:

(a) The poem is 'An Elementary Classroom in a Slum' by Stephen Spender.

(b) The images of skin peeping through bones and children wearing spectacles of steel with mended glasses are used to describe the poverty of these children.

- (c) These children lead a life which is foggy, just like the slum they live in.
- (d) The figure of speech used in line 3 is simile.

**OR**

- (a) The poem is 'My Mother at Sixty-six' by Kamala Das.
- (b) The poet drove away the thought of the very real possibility of her old, frail mother being close to death.
- (c) While driving to the airport, in an effort to distract herself from the thoughts of her ageing mother, the poet looks at the young trees 'sprinting'. The trees seemed to be running past the moving car.
- (d) We know that the joyful scene did not help the poet drive away the thought because as soon as she had to bid adieu to her mother, she fell short of words and could only say 'See you soon Amma' with a hope that she would be able to return to her mother while she is alive.

### Question 8

Answer **any four** of the following questions in 30 – 40 words each:

- (a) Sophie flits from one dream to another. What trait of her character is brought out by this action?
- (b) How and why was M. Hamel dressed differently that day?
- (c) Why did Zitkala-Sa resist the cutting of her hair?
- (d) Why does Aunt Jennifer create animals that are so different from her own character?
- (e) What kind of person was Evans?
- (f) Who actually killed the hundredth tiger in 'The Tiger King'? Why?

### SOLUTION:

- (a) Sophie is a fickle minded girl and also lives in her own world of dreams which are either very difficult or impossible to be true. She keeps jumping from one dream to another and thus, it can be said that she is an immature and a pretentious person.
- (b) M. Hamel was dressed in his special suit which comprised his beautiful green coat, frilled shirt and a little black silk cap, all embroidered because it was the last lesson that he would deliver. He never wore this attire except on inspection and prize days. But that day deserved such a special suit because it was going to be his last lesson in French

and from the next day onward, Germany would assert its political rights over Alsace and Lorraine.

(c) Zitkala-Sa was subjected to extreme indignities by the Carlisle School authorities. She was made to wear immodest clothes, got stared at and even got her shingled like that of a coward. Her mother had told her it was cowards who had short hair and believing in that she wanted to prove she is not one, and therefore she struggled against the injustice. She knew she won't be able to win over the authorities but she never gave in and stood up against the indignities.

(d) In creating animals that are different from her own character, Aunt Jennifer found a means of living an alternate life that is denied to her: a life that is proud, free, fearless and sure of itself. The tigers denote her yearning for power, freedom and fearless living.

(e) Evans was a congenital kleptomaniac who was imprisoned in the Oxford Prison. He urged the prison authority to allow him to take the examination for O-level in German as it would help him gain some educational qualification. Although, a pleasant personality with no record of violence, he had managed to escape thrice from the prison. His intelligent and conspiring mind is the focus of the story. He managed to dodge everyone with his full proof plans. Even the Governor could not help appreciating his shrewd mind.

(f) When the Maharaja shot the tiger, the bullet missed it and the tiger fainted from the shock of bullet whizzing past. The Maharaja left and the hundredth tiger was later killed by his deewan from a short distance of one foot, without missing his mark because he feared that if the Maharaja would know about the tiger being alive, he would banish the deewan from his kingdom.

### Question 9

Answer **any one** of the following questions in 120 – 150 words:

(a) Gandhiji said, "Freedom from fear is more important than legal justice for the poor." How does it become clear from the lesson 'Indigo' that freedom from fear is an essential condition for justice?

(b) Give instances from the chapter, 'The Rattrap' to show that most of its characters are victims of loneliness.

(c) Douglas has a near-death experience in his childhood which has a negative as well as a positive outcome. Justify the statement with evidences from the text.

### SOLUTION:

(a) In the story, Gandhi makes it possible for the sharecroppers of Champaran to shed their fear of the British landlords. According to Gandhi, freedom from fear is the first step towards self-reliance. However, it is unfortunate that the poor of the country are not free



from fear, even decades after the independence. Their actions, work, etc. are still under pressure; they are under the mercy of the bureaucratic system. Furthermore, the poor live in a continual fear of the police, who instead of taking care, often end up maltreating them. The already poor farmers are becoming poorer, because of globalisation and the craze for the foreign products. This leaves them in the fear of further destitution.

(b) The story runs around the life of peddler. He suffers from loneliness and wanders all alone getting bad treatment from people. His life was dull and disappointing. No one tried to understand his suffering and poverty. He needed to bond with someone and share his feelings. Similarly, the Crofter and Edla were victims of loneliness, though Edla had a father but she still felt lonely and thus, insisted that the peddler should stay with them.

(c) For days, Douglas had a haunting fear in his heart after the incident. The slightest exertion upset him, making him wobbly in the knees and sick to his stomach. Douglas never went back to the pool, he feared water and avoided it whenever he could. A few years later, when he came to know about the waters of the Cascades, he wanted to get into them. However, whether he was wading the Tieton or Bumping River or bathing in Warm Lake of the Goat Rocks, the terror that had seized him in the pool would come back to him. It would take possession of him completely, his legs would become paralysed and an icy horror would grab his heart. However, Douglas regretted being deprived of enjoying water activities like canoeing, boating, swimming, fishing, etc. The wish to enjoy them and the craving to regain his lost confidence, while being in water, made him try every possible way to get rid of his fear. He was finally able to overcome this mental handicap by getting himself a swimming instructor and further ensuring that no residual fear was left.

### Question 10

Answer *any one* of the following questions in 120 - 150 words :

(a) "Things that matter. Things nobody else has ever said. Things I want to think about." What are the 'things' that Derry is referring to ? How did Derry's chance meeting with Mr. Lamb prove meaningful for him ?

(b) 'The Enemy' portrays the victory of humanity in a moment of crisis. Illustrate this fact through the actions taken by Dr. Sadao for the enemy soldier.

(c) How does the story, 'Should Wizard Hit Mommy' bear testimony to the fact that the frustrations faced by adults and their personal experience often intrude upon their interaction with their children ? Elaborate.

### SOLUTION:

(a) Derry is referring to the things which he had missed hearing/ feeling all his life till the time he met Mr. Lamb, who did not judge him for his half-burnt face and did not look down upon him. Derry had a low self-esteem. One side of his face was scarred and so he avoided the company of people. He thought that people were afraid of him and no one loved him. But after meeting Mr. Lamb, Derry's attitude towards life changed. In

spite of having a lame leg, Mr. Lamb had a positive spirit. He did not care what people thought about him and did whatever he liked. He befriended Derry and encouraged him to live life as it is. He made Derry understand that the world is full of good and bad things and he should learn to accept both. Thus, Mr. Lamb helped Derry to transform.

(b) Dr. Sadao acted first as a doctor and then as a patriot. He knew that being humanitarian was one of the greatest principles in his profession, and so he couldn't have left the wounded American soldier to die. It was his duty as a doctor to offer him medical help. Despite the guilt of harbouring an enemy and the fear of being severely punished for doing so, he could not escape the overpowering force of his duty. When he had first found the soldier, his hands worked deftly around the wound despite his dislike towards the enemy. Even later, during the operation, his wife noticed the same thing about him- that while at work it did not matter to him what kind of body lay before him. Moreover, though he found the American man despicable and was often repulsed at the sight of him, he couldn't help checking his vitals even when he was about to leave. All this shows that Sadao was completely devoted to his profession as a doctor. Towards the end of the story one can see that it was his humanitarian spirit as well that had been working all the while. Though he had said that he was helping the soldier run away for his own mental peace, the idea of his even bothering about the soldier's need for food, etc. shows that it was his philanthropic attribute that was at play. Thus, *The Enemy* portrays the victory of humanity in a moment of crisis.

(c) Jack's childhood is interwoven with the character of Skunk. Like Skunk, Jack was obedient as a child. He loved his mother very much. Jack is the author's alter ego in the story. John Updike had psoriasis and stammered when he was young and his mother helped him to overcome it. Like Jack, Skunk too suffered social rejection because of his bad smell. Whenever Jack made up a story for his daughter, he always added some element of his own personal life. Just like while telling the story of 'Roger Skunk', he imagined the humiliations he felt when he himself was a child and then retold the story, as if Roger Skunk was feeling that same humiliation. Thus, it can be said that the frustrations faced by adults and their personal experiences often intrude upon their interaction with their children.

### Question 11

Answer **any one** of the following questions in 120 – 150 words:

(a) Why did Teddy Henfrey feel insulted after his encounter with the strange man at the 'Coach and Horses'? What did he do to relieve himself from his nasty mood on his way back from the inn?

(b) Griffin calls Dr. Kemp a traitor as he cheated Griffin and let out all his secrets. Do you agree with this depiction of Kemp? Give reasons.

(c) How do the misfortunes of Silas at Raveloe transform him in the eyes of the community?

(d) Describe Nancy's personality and approach to life in 'Silas Marner'.

### SOLUTION:

(a) Mr. Teddy Henfrey was a clock jobber, who had come to repair a clock at the inn. As he entered, he saw the stranger covered in bandages and this made him curious, he was both shocked and surprised. Since the stranger told him not to disturb him, Henfrey took even longer to repair the clock out of suspicion. This infuriated the stranger and he asked him to go away as early as possible. Teddy got offended as his self-respect had been hurt. His mind was filled with different ideas. He thought that the stranger could be a suspicious man and the police might be after him. His suspicion got cemented when he found the stranger doing everything to conceal his identity. He rushed out of the room and alerted Mrs. Hall about the stranger. Henfrey germinated the seeds of suspicion in everybody's mind, spread the rumour about the stranger being a thief and relieved himself.

(b) No, I do not agree with this depiction of Dr. Kemp. During their first encounter, Kemp was amenable to the idea of understanding a little more about the invisibility condition of Griffin. Kemp's scientific curiosity was tickled by the idea of an invisible man and he was keen on learning how Griffin had achieved the stupendous feat. But, as the latter began talking about abusing his powers and establishing a reign of terror, Kemp was alarmed. He devised a plan to apprehend the criminal but it failed. Kemp came to think of him as mad, inhuman, purely selfish and willing to go to any lengths in order to further his means. Kemp understood that the Invisible Man was only interested in working to his advantage and safety and in this path to brutal self-seeking, he could wound and kill people if need be. He would become unstoppable thanks to the panic generated in people by his invisibility. Kemp decided to stop this deranged man from achieving his goal of establishing a reign of terror and killing at will. Kemp comes across as a man with noble intentions and a law-abiding citizen. He informed the police of Griffin's whereabouts and was instrumental in the invisible man's downfall.

(c) Silas Marner is the protagonist of the eponymous novel, when he is shunned from his town and church after being falsely accused of robbery, Silas took refuge in Raveloe, where he began to live a secluded life as a weaver. His small fortune of gold soon became an obsession which was further enhanced by his life of solitude and monotony as a weaver in the small community of Raveloe. He had nothing left from his old life but the gold that he was slowly accumulating. Silas was a pale complexioned man with big brown eyes and ordinary looks but in comparison to the people of Raveloe, he stood out as a peculiar stranger. In Raveloe, he seemed like an oddity coming from an industrialized setting into the farming community of the hamlet. Silas was deeply affected by the trauma of being shunned by his own community and having to live in an alien setting, it destroyed his spirit and then he took to weaving as a means to deaden his senses to the world. He was friendless in spite of efforts to the contrary and came to be regarded as almost a sinister figure. For years Silas kept on weaving and lost any motivation to go out into the world. He became alienated and isolated in the midst of a robust community. He almost becomes a machine but a change occurs

and that is through contact with another human being, a mere child, Eppie who comes into his life and he finds a reason to work instead of the mindless drudgery he had become used to and also an opportunity to engage with the community. The child Eppie, in her state of innocence brings him back to the world, subtly hinting towards nature as the remedy for life's meaningless course, Eppie represents the simplicity and beauty of nature, unsullied by human life. Silas' love for Eppie is his redeeming feature, it makes into a human being once again, thus showing that it is through our contact with other human beings that we understand the true importance of what it means to be human, solidarity, empathy and love.

(d) Nancy Lammeter is a pretty and caring but stubborn lady in the beginning. Godfrey pursues her to marry him and she agrees. Nancy belongs to a rich family like Godfrey. She does not like Godfrey but always pays attention to him also (before marriage), this she speaks to herself in a monologue. She is superstitious and resistant to change like Silas. Godfrey gets older but Nancy just gets older. Nancy is good at heart. Nancy and Priscilla are sisters but have contrasting looks and character also.

### Question 12

Answer **any one** of the following questions in 120 – 150 words:

(a) 'A most remarkable story,' commented Mr. Bunting. Which story was he referring to? Why was it so remarkable?

(b) Griffin allows the destructive desires to dominate his life. Substantiate the statement with reference to 'The Invisible Man'.

(c) What is the most important internal conflict presented at the 'beginning of the story, 'Silas Marner'?

(d) Narrate the unfortunate incident of the theft of Silas' gold.

### SOLUTION:

(a) Mr. Bunting was referring to the story about the invisible man. It was remarkable because what Mr Cuss had seen was unbelievable to Mr. Bunting. The stranger had no wish to entertain nosy neighbourhood people, he did not speak a word and simply glared at Mr. Cuss for intruding upon his private space. The stranger had merely sniffed and kept on sniffing all the time that Mr. Cuss was present. Any question put to him succeeded in enraging him further but when he accidentally revealed his empty sleeve, there was a moment of confusion which the stranger and Mr. Cuss shared before the former turned the latter out of his room. Mr. Cuss was visibly shaken from this encounter. However, what is clear from this encounter is that the stranger was in a perturbed state of mind, he was working on a problem whose solution seemed to elude him constantly.

(b) Griffin is an albino college student who had changed his area of study from medicine



to physics and had become interested in refractive indexes of tissue. During his studies he stumbled across formulas that would render tissue invisible. Eventually he tries the formula on himself, thinking of all the things he could do if he were invisible. Unfortunately, the advantages are far outweighed by the disadvantages- Griffin turns to crime as a means of survival. Griffin had stolen money from his father, which belonged to others. His father committed suicide because he could not face the people, but Griffin was not at all ashamed of his action. On the contrary, he blamed his father for being such a weak man. He did not even go to his father's funeral and quietly left town. When he wanted to conduct the experiment, he used the cat and once his work was done, let it go in the cold weather mercilessly. He burnt down the whole building where he stayed so that his apparatus would not be found out by the police. He did not think twice before beating up people or even killing them. These incidents clearly bring out the ugly side of Griffin.

(c) George Eliot's *Silas Marner* combines the novel's aspect of realism and fairy tale. Readers are taken back some sixty years to a pre-industrial era when "there might be seen in districts far away among the lanes, or deep in the bosom of the hills, certain pallid undersized men, who, by the side of the brawny country-folk, looked like the remnants of a disinherited race." The narrator is describing the hand-loom weavers. The novel in continuum sees how they are formed by labour as well as imagines them as mythical creatures of a folk tale.

(d) When in Ravlooe, Silas lived in a stone cottage near a lonely stone-pit. He lived there alone, busy in his work and happy with his gold. It is in this cottage where he feels most comfortable in Ravlooe. This cottage is like a symbol of domesticity for him. The important event of Silas's life happens in this cottage, ie. Dunstan comes in this cottage in the absence of Silas and takes away the gold. When Silas comes back and realizes that the gold is gone, he reacts inconsolably. It was his gold which was dear to him in his life and it was also gone.

