

## Poets and Pancakes

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1. What does "The God That Failed" refer to? (2024)

**Ans.** Suggested value points -

- low priced paperback student edition to commemorate 50th anniversary of the Russian revolution
- failure of communism
- name of the book written by six eminent writers including Stephen Spender

### Previous Years' CBSE Board Questions

**SA III (4 marks)**

Read the extract given below and briefly answer the questions that follows

1. Film-making must have been and was so easy with a man like Subbu around and if ever there was a man who gave direction and definition to Gemini Studios during its golden years, it was Subbu. Subbu had a separate identity as a poet and though he was certainly capable of more complex and higher forms, he deliberately chose to address his poetry to the masses. (2020 C)

(i) What was Subbu's contribution to Gemini Studios?

(ii) What separate identity did Subbu have?

(iii) How did Subbu use his capability?

(iv) What does the writer mean by 'during its golden years'?

2. He couldn't have addressed a more dazed and silent audience – no one knew what he was talking about and his accent defeated any attempt to understand what he was saying.

(i) Identify the chapter. Who is 'he'?

(ii) What was 'he' in real life?

(iii) How did the audience react to his speech?

(iv) Why was his speech not a success? (2020)



## CBSE Sample Questions

### LA II (6 marks)

1. A girl from the countryside, she hadn't gone through all the stages of worldly experience that generally precede a position of importance and sophistication that she had found herself catapulted into. She never quite recovered from the terror she felt that day. That was the end of a brief and brilliant acting career - the legal adviser, who was also a member of the Story Department, had unwittingly brought about that sad end. While every other member of the Department wore a kind of uniform - khadi dhoti with a slightly oversized and clumsily tailored white khadi shirt — the legal adviser wore pants and a tie and sometimes a coat that looked like a coat of mail. Often, he looked alone and helpless...

(i) Select the option that completes the given sentence appropriately.

'Stages of worldly experience' in the given context would refer to \_\_\_\_\_.

- (a) good education to gain knowledge.
- (b) situations that require one to be street smart.
- (c) smaller, not so important roles in acting.
- (d) training in soft skills.

(ii) Select the suitable word from the extract to complete the following analogy:

sealed: closed :: propelled :

(iii) Select the correct option to fill in the blank.

The harm done to the actress was a/an \_\_\_\_\_.

- (a) well-planned act.
- (b) unintentional act.
- (c) act of jealousy.
- (d) act of male dominance.

(iv) Based on the above extract, choose the statement that is TRUE for the legal adviser.

- (a) He disliked the actress from the countryside.
- (b) He acted after thinking through things carefully.
- (c) He did not gel well with others in the Department.
- (d) He was always dressed smartly.



(v) Identify the textual clue that allows the reader to infer that the writer is sympathetic towards the professional fate of the actor. (Clue: a phrase)

(vi) Complete the sentence with an appropriate explanation, as per the extract.

The writer uses the word 'uniform' to refer to the outfits of the Department members because just like a uniform \_\_\_\_\_.

(2022-23)

## ANSWERS

### Previous Years' CBSE Board Questions

1. (i) Subbu gave direction and definition to Gemini Studios through his easy and numerous solutions for the Boss' queries.

(ii) He was also a poet.

(iii) Subbu deliberately chose to write poetry for the masses.

(iv) The writer meant to refer to the time when Gemini Studios was flourishing and successful.

2. (i) The name of the chapter is Poets and Pancakes. He was the English poet who came to deliver a speech.

(ii) He was the editor of the British periodical, The Encounter.

(iii) The audience was left dazed as no one understood his accent.

(iv) His speech was not a success because he failed to make the audience understand his speech and the purpose of his visit.

### CBSE Sample Questions

1. (i) (b) situations that require one to be street smart.

(ii) catapulted

(iii) (b) unintentional act

(iv) (c) He did not gel well with others in the Department.

(v) The phrase 'sad end'

(vi) is a common dress for all, similarly, their apparel/dress was nearly the same- loose khadi shirt and khadi dhoti.