

Going Places

Previous Years' CBSE Board Questions

SA I (2 marks)

1. Why did Sophie long for her brother's affection? (2023)
2. Why didn't Sophie want Jansie to know about her meeting with Danny Casey? (2020)
3. What was Sophie's first choice of job after completing her school? How did she hope to succeed in her aim? (2020)
4. Why did Sophie long for her brother's affection? (AI 2014)
5. How are Jansie and Sophie different from each other? (Delhi 2014C)
6. Why is Sophie attracted to Danny Casey? (Delhi 2014C)

SA II (3 marks)

7. What is your impression of Sophie's brother Geoff? (AI 2019)
8. Sophie was dreaming of so many things in her life. What were they? (Delhi 2017)

LA I (5 marks)

9. Has Sophie met Danny Casey? What details of her meeting with Danny Casey did she narrate to her brother? (Delhi 2014)
10. What were Sophie's plans for her future? Why would you call her dreams unrealistic? (Delhi 2014)

LA II (6 marks)

11. Or an actress. Now there's real money in that. Yes, and I could may be have the boutique on the side. Actresses don't work full time, do they? Anyway, that or a fashion designer. You know something a bit sophisticated" And she turned in through the open street door leaving Jansie standing in the rain. "If I ever come into money, I'll buy a boutique". "Huh, if you ever come money... if you ever come into money, you'll buy us a blessed decent house to live in thank you very much."

Sophie's father was scooping shepherd's pie into his mouth as hard as he could go, his plumb face still grimy and sweat-marked from the day. "She thinks money grows on trees, don't she Dad? Said little Derek, hanging on the back of his father's chair. Their mother sighed.



- (i) Sophie wants to become an actress to
- (a) become famous
 - (b) to earn money
 - (c) to support her father
 - (d) to compete with Jansie
- (ii) Jansie wanted Sophie to spend her money on
- (a) her marriage
 - (b) her career
 - (c) to open a boutique
 - (d) buying a house
- (iii) Sophie is daydreaming about _____.
- (iv) The phrase 'money grows on trees' indicates that Sophie _____.
- (v) Sophie's mother's sigh is one of
- (a) regret
 - (b) delight
 - (c) relief
 - (d) helplessness
- (vi) From the extract Jansie comes across as a _____ person
- (a) practical
 - (b) dominating
 - (c) immature
 - (d) starstruck

(2023)

12. "Sophie's dreams and disappointments are all in her mind." Justify the statement. (2020C)

13. Why was Sophie attracted to Danny Casey? How did her father react on hearing about her meeting with Danny Casey? (2020 C)

14. How are Jansie and Sophie different from each other? (2019 C)

15. Attempt a character sketch of Sophie as a girl who lives in her dreams.

(Delhi 2019)



16. In one's approach to life one should be practical and not live in a world of dreams. How is Jansie's attitude different from that of Sophie? (2018)
17. Teachers always advise their students to dream big. Yet, the same teachers in your classrooms find fault with Sophie when she dreams. What is wrong with Sophie's dreams? (Delhi 2016)
18. Every teenager has a hero/heroine to admire. So many times, they become role models for them. What is wrong if Sophie fantasises about Danny Casey and is ambitious in life? (AI 2016)
19. Given the socio-economic conditions in which Sophie lived should she have big dreams? Why? Why not? (Foreign 2016)
20. How different is Jansie from Sophie? (AI 2015)
21. It is not unusual for a lower middle-class girl to dream big. How unrealistic were Sophie's dreams? (AI 2015)
22. It is normal for adolescents to fantasise and indulge in hero worship. How far is it true of Sophie? (Foreign 2015)
23. Sophie lives in a world full of dreams, which she does not know she cannot realise. Comment. (AI 2015)



CBSE Sample Questions

LAI (5 marks)

1. 'Their mother sighed.

Sophie watched her back stooped over the sink and wondered at the incongruity of the delicate bow which fastened her apron strings.'

The prose selection, Going Places includes this telling comment about Sophie's mother.

In Aunt Jennifer's Tigers, we are told that -

'The massive weight of Uncle's wedding band Sits heavily upon Aunt Jennifer's Hand.'

Imagine a conversation between Sophie's mother and Aunt Jennifer. Create this exchange with reference to the two extracts given above.

You may begin the conversation like this ...

Sophie's mother: Your embroidery is so beautiful. Do you love tigers?

(2022)

ANSWERS

Previous Years' CBSE Board Questions

1. The reason Sophie liked Geoff better than anyone else was that he didn't talk much and tended to get lost in his own thoughts. His stillness made her envious, and she believed he had access to a secret world. She always imagined herself wearing fashionable clothing and being welcomed by everyone, since she yearned to be a part of that world. Geoff represented Sophie's freedom from the boring life they had been leading.

2. Sophie didn't want Jansie to know about her meeting with Danny Casey because she was worried that Jansie had the habit of sharing secrets with the whole neighborhood and she didn't want it to happen. And deep down she knew her lies would be caught if Jansie were to learn of her made-up stories.

3. Sophie's first choice of job after completing school is to open a boutique. In order to achieve this dream Sophie aspires to run a store where she will work as a manager and she will use the money saved from working there to open her boutique.



4. Geoff was an introvert and Sophie envied her brother's silence as she thought that he had access to a world that she had never got a chance to visit. She sought her brother's affection and approval because Geoff was not critical and disapproving of her like her father. To her, Geoff's world symbolised freedom and adventure, which Sophie craved for a lot. She, to some extent heroworshipped Geoff.

5. While Jansie is practical, Sophie is a day dreamer. Jansie, is a realistic and grounded girl. Sophie on the other hand wants to escape her reality and yearns to be free.

6. Sophie is attracted to Danny Casey because he is a famous young Irish football player, who played for the United. Sophie's attraction for the sports star can be seen as hero-worship by the adolescent girl.

7. Geoff was an introvert by nature. He often remained silent and lost in his own world, a world to which Sophie had no access. She often sought her brother's affection and attention. She was quite fascinated about Geoff's world as it symbolised adventure and freedom for Sophie. She hero-worshipped her brother.

8. Sophie dreamt of owning a boutique. But, that would require money. Therefore, Sophie thought of becoming a manager straight off. Then, she considered becoming an actress as it paid good money. She was going to be either that or a fashion designer. Eventually, once she acquired enough money, she would buy a boutique.

9. No, Sophie has not met Danny Casey in person, but has seen him play football matches in the stadium with her father and brothers. When she lied to Geoff about meeting Danny Casey in person, she narrated that she had met him in the arcade. She was looking at the clothes in Royce's window, when she spotted him standing beside her. She described his physical appearance saying that Danny Casey had gentle, green eyes and that he was not very tall. He was quiet by nature but when he spoke, he spoke in an Irish accent. Sophie said that she wanted his autograph for little Derek, but couldn't get it because neither of them had a paper or a pen. She especially mentioned that Danny Casey did not have any girlfriend and that he asked her to meet him the following week and promised to give her an autograph.

10. Sophie wanted her future to be sophisticated and comfortable. She did not see herself working at the biscuit factory for the rest of her life. Instead, she wanted to have a boutique after leaving school. However, realising that it costs money to own a boutique, she changed her mind and decided to become a shop manager first to earn enough money for the boutique. Alternatively, she considered becoming an actress because, as a profession, it pays well. She changed her mind yet again and revealed that she would be an actress and run a boutique side by



side. Her dreams can be called unrealistic because, she came from a poor family who could not provide all the resources needed to fulfil her fantasies. Moreover, Sophie wanted to escape her reality with the help of such dreams and fantasies, but not work hard to make them come true.

11. (i) (b) to earn money

(ii) (c) to open a boutique

(iii) Sophie is daydreaming about achieving things that she has no access to; she is completely lost in her imagination.

(iv) is not very practical.

(v) (d) helplessness

(vi) (a) practical

12. Sophie is a girl still in her adolescence. She comes from a lower middle class family, but is full of dreams. She is an escapist, who is not satisfied with the reality of her life. Sophie is not ready to accept what life has to offer her. This is why she fantasises of a different life, which would be more exciting. Her best friend Jansie believes that Sophie and she are ear-marked for the biscuit factory. However, Sophie dreams of becoming a fashion designer or opening a boutique even though it may not be achievable because of her financial constraints. Sophie's hero-worship for Danny Casey causes her to make up stories and lie to her loved ones. There is no limit of her imaginations. She fantasises about her dream date with Danny even though she has never once met him in person. She eagerly waits for Danny to come and meet her by the canal, but for apparent reasons, he does not. It is she who gets disappointed in the end. Therefore, this proves that Sophie lives in a world full of dreams which she does not know she cannot realise.

13. Sophie is a young teenager who aspire to reach unimaginable heights. She is a dreamer who is unaware of the realities of life. She is attracted to Danny Casey, a famous, young, Irish football player who played for the United. Her attraction for the sports star can be seen as hero-worship by the adolescent girl.

Sophie knew how short tempered their father was, and wiggled when Geoff told their father about the chance encounter. But when he heard it, their father was indifferent and rather stated that she will get into trouble one day for spreading such wild stories. He knows well Sophie loves to spin stories and did not believe this current story too. He believes that instead of engaging in her expensive and wild ambitions, Sophie should be realistic and earn money for the family.

14. Sophie and Jansie are classmates and friends. They belong to lower middle-class families. Jansie thinks that they both are earmarked for biscuit factory.



While Jansie seems to have no unrealistic dreams, her friend, Sophie, is a daydreamer. She wants to own a boutique when she grows up.

Jansie, who is practical and a realistic person, reminds Sophie that it takes a lot of money to own a boutique. Sophie, on the other hand, is fickle minded. She says that she will get a high paying job of a manager or become an actress because they get paid a lot. Sophie shares her dream of becoming an actress/designer/boutique owner with her friend Jansie, which only saddens her. A worldly-wise Jansie warns Sophie against such far-fetched and unachievable dreams and is content with her reality, whereas Sophie wants to escape hers and find contentment outside, in a world, which is full of mystery and adventure. Sophie's adolescent fantasising about having a grand and promising future and hero-worship of Danny Casey stands in total contrast to Jansie's groundedness and practical temperament.

15. The character of Sophie appears to be a girl who lives in her dreams. She belongs to a weak socio-economic background and to escape from the boring, working class existence, she often fantasises of a grand and promising future. She wants her future to have less hardships and money constraints. Given her adolescent age, she is fickle minded. When she grows up, she aspires to be a boutique owner or a manager, or an actress, who is also a fashion designer, who also runs a boutique. However, she does not take concrete steps to convert any of her aspiration into reality. Of all her family members, Sophie admires her brother Geoff the most. She idealises him and at the same time is jealous of him, because he speaks less to Sophie, he seems full of mystery. She wants to be a part of her brother's mysterious world because it symbolises freedom and adventure, both of which fascinate her immensely. She thinks that she is tailor made for such a world. Also, a part of her dream world is Danny Casey, an Irish footballer. Sophie has watched him play only once and develops a crush on him. Her hero-worship towards Danny Casey is so intense that she fantasises meeting him. She romanticises it and later feels disappointed when her fantasy does not come true. Therefore, it is suffice to say that Sophie is one incurable dreamer who lives in denial. Throughout the story, she has never once thought practically or come out of her dream world.

16. Sophie and Jansie are classmates and friends. They belong to lower middle-class families. Jansie thinks that they both are earmarked for biscuit factory. While Jansie seems to have no unrealistic dreams, her friend, Sophie, is a daydreamer. She wants to own a boutique when she grows up. Jansie, who is practical and a realistic person, reminds Sophie that it takes a lot of money to own a boutique. Sophie, on the other hand, is fickle minded. She says that she will get a high paying job of a manager or become an actress because they get paid a lot. Sophie shares her dream of becoming an actress/designer/boutique owner with her friend Jansie, which only saddens her. A worldly-wise Jansie warns

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17. Although, it is not wrong to have dreams and aspirations for the future, one may find fault with Sophie when she dreams. She belongs to a weak socio-economic background and to escape from the boring, working class existence she often fantasies of a grand and promising future with less hardship and money constraints. Given to her adolescent age, she is fickle minded as she aspires to be a boutique owner, a manager, an actress or a fashion designer when she grows up. However, she does not take concrete steps to convert any of her aspirations into reality. Sophie feels that a far better world, full of mysteries, awaits to be explored by her. Since her circumstances do not support her, one might also feel that her dreams are not based on reality. Sophie likes her world of fantasy more than the real world and wants to remain in it all the time, that is what is wrong.

18. Every teenager has a hero or an idol to admire. So, many times they become role models for them. Sophie is one such teenager filled with boundless enthusiasm and ambitions. She wants to lead a sophisticated life. However, she is not a headstrong girl, who is determined to do things her own way and work hard to pursue her dreams. Instead, she appears to be fickle minded changing her aspirations without giving them much thought. She might even appear unrealistic and impractical on some instances because she prefers her world of fantasy over her reality. Her family is poor and cannot provide all the needed resources to fulfil her fantasies. Her hero-worship is limited to her infatuation with Danny Casey. She fantasies and lies about their somewhat romantic meeting rather than drawing inspiration from his dedication and hard work to achieve his dreams.

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22. It is normal for adolescents to fantasise and indulge in hero-worship. Same is the case with the protagonist of the story, 'Going Places', Sophie. Sophie is someone, who looks for an escape from her harsh reality in her fantasies. In the story, one can see Sophie idolising two individuals. One is of course Danny Casey, the Irish, star football player and the other one is Geoff, her older brother. Sophie loves Geoff the most in the family to the extent that she worships him and longs for his affection. Geoff is an introvert; he does not talk to her much and keeps himself busy with his bike. Sophie thinks that when Geoff is silent, he is far away somewhere in the mysterious world he belongs to. She too wants to be a part of Geoff's mystery world. She imagines herself riding behind him, wearing a yellow dress hearing the sound of people applauding for them. She wants him to think of her as an adult; it matters to her what Geoff thinks. However, Geoff considers Sophie too young. Her hero-worship for Danny Casey develops into a romantic fantasy, which she cherishes and starts to think as real. She lies about meeting him in person at the arcade. Her detailed description of the way he looks, his mannerisms, etc., makes her lie believable to her brother Geoff and her best friend Jansie. Sophie tells Geoff that Danny has asked her to meet him again and insist that he would certainly come, even though Geoff half believes it. Later on,



the day Sophie is supposed to meet Danny the second time, she imagines him coming and how she would react. Reality hits her hard once again when Danny does not come and it saddens Sophie. The fact is, she and Danny had never met in reality. Sophie had only seen him once playing at the stadium.

23. Sophie is a girl still in her adolescence. She comes from a lower middle-class family, but is full of dreams. She is an escapist, who is not satisfied with the reality of her life. Sophie is not ready to accept what life has to offer her. This is why she fantasises of a different life, which would be more exciting. Her best friend Jansie believes that Sophie and she are ear-marked for the biscuit factory. However, Sophie dreams of becoming a fashion designer or opening a boutique even though it may not be achievable because of her financial constraints. Sophie's hero-worship for Danny Casey causes her to make up stories and lie to her loved ones. There is no limit of her imaginations. She fantasises about her dream date with Danny even though she has never once met him in person. She eagerly waits for Danny to come and meet her by the canal, but for apparent reasons, he does not. It is she who gets disappointed in the end. Therefore, this proves that Sophie lives in a world full of dreams which she does not know she cannot realise.

CBSE Sample Questions

1. HINTS: (i) Aunt Jennifer shares about her loss of identity; use of art as a means to express her deep-down desires and feelings.

(ii) Sophie's mother shares information about her servile role – all her time is spent in meeting the needs of the family; has no life of her own. Sophie's mother stays home while all others go to witness Danny Casey's football match.

(iii) Both feel burdened with responsibilities.

(iv) Both have domineering husbands; They do not have a say in the family matters.

(v) There seems to be no likelihood of any change in their status.

