

Class 11th English Hornbill Chapter 3 Discovering Tut: The Saga Continues Question Answers Gujarat Board

Understanding the Text

Give reasons for the following:

Question 1. King Tut's body has been subjected to repeated scrutiny.

Answer:

King Tut's body has been subjected to repeated scrutiny for the riches it was buried with. There has also been a lot of speculation about the manner of his death and the time of his death.

Question 2. Howard Carter's investigation was resented.

Answer:

Howard Carter's investigation was resented because he used unscientific methods to cut the body away from the wooden base. He also focused more on the discovery of gold than on the fascinating details of Tut's life and the mysteries of his death.

Question 3. Carter had to chisel away the solidified resins to raise the king's remains.

Answer:

Carter found that the ritual resin that was used as a polish has hardened. The result was that the mummy was cemented to the bottom of the solid gold coffin. Neither the strongest force could move the mummy nor the burning sun could loosen the remains of the king.

Question 4. Tut's body was buried along with gilded treasures.

Answer:

The ancient royals of Egypt were fabulously wealthy. They believed in afterlife. They also believed that they could take their wealth with them. So, gilded treasures were buried with them.

Question 5. The boy king changed his name from Tutankhaten to Tutankhamun.

Answer:

Tutankhamun means 'Living image of Amun'. He was a major god in ancient Egypt. King Amenhotep smashed the images of Amun and closed his temples. Tut oversaw a restoration of the old ways. He also changed his name to express his belief in Amun.

Question 6. List the deeds that led Ray Johnson to describe Akhenaten as 'wacky'.

Answer:

Akhenaten means the servant of the Aten i.e., the sun-disk. He moved the religious capital from the old city of Thebes to the new city of Akhetaten, known now as Amarna. He smashed the images of Amun, a major God and closed his temples. These deeds led Ray Johnson to describe Akhenaten as 'wacky'.



Question 7. What were the results of the CT scan ?

Answer:

The results of the CT scan were quite encouraging. 1700 digital X-ray images in cross-section were created. A grey head appeared on screen. Neck vertebrae were quite clear. The images of hand, ribcage and skull were equally bright. These revealed that nothing had gone seriously wrong with Tut's body.

Question 8. List the advances in technology that have improved forensic analysis.

Answer:

The advances in technology have helped in improving forensic analysis. Many scientific tests can be carried out to determine the causes of crime. These include X-ray, ultrasound, CT scan, postmortem, autopsy and biopsy. All these help in diagnosis and provide exact information.

Question 9. Explain the statement: "King Tut is one of the first mummies to be scanned – in death as in life..."

Answer:

King Tut's mummy was the first one to be X-rayed by an anatomy professor in 1968. On 5 January, 2005 CT scan created virtual reality and produced life-like images. King Tut is one of the first mummies to be scanned. Thus, in death as well as in life Tut moved regally ahead of his countrymen.

Talking about the Text

Discuss the following in groups of two pairs, two pairs each in a group taking opposite points of view:

Question 1. Scientific intervention is necessary to unearth buried mysteries.

(Students are expected to debate on issue raised in the text related to rediscovering history with the help of technology; respect for traditions, etc. While answering these questions, students are required reflect on the issues and give their points Of view)

Answer:

For the motion:

Every nation glorifies its past history culture and civilization. However, certain mysteries are buried with them. Rituals and legends are insufficient to clear the wrap of mystery surrounding them. For example, take the case of Tutankhamun's mummy. He was laid to rest laden with gold more than 3300 years ago.

Since the discovery of his tomb in 1922 AD, the modern world has speculated about him. Some people believe that the boy king might have been murdered. There is a mystery around his life as well as death. Scientific intervention is necessary to clear the dust and cloud of mysteries around him. Hence, if we want to study archaeology properly we must take help of scientific techniques.



Against the motion:

If present is perfect and future uncertain, why worry about the past? Let the dead past bury its dead and the mysteries surrounding them. In the present world full of competition, we must devote our money, time and energy to build up our resources and sustain the lifestyle. Scientific techniques should be employed to feed the hungry millions and clad the naked ones. Some mysteries of the past have lost their relevance with the passage of time. Won't it be futile and wastage of precious resources of a developing nation in this idle pursuit? Let the thinkers, philosophers and priests worry about mysteries – not the scientists.

Question 2. Advanced technology gives us conclusive evidence of past events.

Answer:

For the motion:

I fully subscribe to the observation that advanced technology gives us conclusive evidence of past events. Even my opponents will agree that there is no proper written record about many past events. Myths and legends surround even the most celebrated personalities and events of their life or circumstances of death. Facts and fiction are mingled together and sometimes have become inseparable.

Various persons have given coloured versions of the past events to suit the demands of their masters or to serve their own ends. The evidence that opposed their point of view has been condemned and rejected. Thus, sometimes we get a warped version and subjective account of past events. Only advanced technology can help us understand the past in right perspective.

Against the motion:

I disagree with the remarks that advanced technology gives us conclusive evidence of past events. It may hold good in certain cases where evidence can be reconstructed and examined closely with the sophisticated techniques of modern science available now. However, it will be unfair to generalise and hold it true in all cases. Sometimes the processing of available data may yield contradictory accounts and create more confusion than unravelling the knotted issues. Moreover, the available evidence may not be worthy of analysis and examination. The tests may determine the possible time period of the action, but it is quite difficult to assess the causes that prompted it or the results that followed it.

Question 3. Traditions, rituals and funerary practices must be respected.

Answer:

For the motion:

Different religions, cultures and civilizations follow various traditions, rituals and funerary practices. The dead bodies buried under the earth, are supposed to lie in rest peacefully till the doom's day or the day of resurrection or after life. The ancient Egyptians had mastered the art of mummifying. Certain traditional rituals were performed while treating the dead body with special oils and wrapping it in cloth. Ritual resins held the mummy close to the bottom of the coffin. The burial chamber and grave contained all the important things that



the king might need in after life. The funerary practices had a certain sanctity for the followers of that particular religion. We must learn to be more tolerant of the belief of others. Hence, I conclude that traditions, rituals and funerary practices must be respected.

Against the motion:

The world is on the move. We have to be forward looking. We can't remain content with the achievements of the past or rest on our laurels. If traditions, rituals and certain funerary practices block the flow of information and knowledge, these may be overlooked for the greater benefit of humanity, i.e., clearing the air of mystery, ignorance and superstitions surrounding some of the age-old beliefs. However, in our quest for knowledge, we should not be intolerant or disrespectful. We must conduct our probe objectively and dispassionately. Facts must be given more weightage than the beliefs attached to them. A detached outlook can provide clear understanding of past events.

Question 4. Knowledge about the past is useful to complete our knowledge of the world we live in.

Answer:

For the motion:

Modern world has expanded the frontiers of knowledge. In fact the whole world has become a global village.

Within a few seconds we become aware of incidents happening thousands of miles away. Information technology has indeed brought a revolution in the field of knowledge. Still our knowledge of the world is incomplete without the knowledge of about past lives.

We are the direct descendants of our ancestors and we must be aware of the circumstances in which they existed and how they coped with them. The structure of future is rooted in the past. We draw lessons from future the past and make improvements. The lives the people of the past are like bear on lights to guide and inspire us and enlighten us about the world we live in.

Against the motion:

We are constantly learning new things about the world we live in. The knowledge of our present circumstances and future prospects is more important than the knowledge about past lives. Their additions, rituals, tools, ways of conduct and ethos are not going to help us in our struggle for existence in the highly competitive and complex modern world.

The knowledge about past lives can at best make us retrograde instead of being progressive. For many of us the world means their sphere of activities and the environment they live in. People aim at specializing in restricted fields instead of being Jack of all trades. As such the knowledge of the world we need is also restricted to our requirements and we need not bother about knowledge about past lives.

Thinking about Language

Read the following piece of information from 'The Encyclopedia of Language' by David Crystal:

Egyptian is now extinct: its history dates from before the third millennium BC, preserved in many hieroglyphic inscriptions and papyrus manuscripts. Around the second century AD, it developed into a language known as Coptic. Coptic may still have been used as late as the early nineteenth century and is still used as a religious language by Monophysite Christians in Egypt.

Question 1. What do you think are the reasons for the extinction of languages?

Answer:

A language becomes extinct when its use is restricted to certain classes or categories of people. Secondly, the harshness of rules and lack of flexibility in usage also contribute to the extinction of languages.

Question 2. Do you think it is important to preserve languages ?

Answer:

I think it is important to preserve languages. Various languages are the vehicles of thought and medium of interaction between the users of that language and the outside world. A language has intimate connection with the lives, culture and civilization of the people and reflects their thinking.

Question 3. In what ways do you think we could help prevent the extinction of languages and dialects ?

Answer:

Certain steps must be taken to help prevent the extinction of languages and dialects. The most important is to encourage its use. A language thrives as long as it is used by masses. Measures should be taken to propagate the languages and dialects used in certain areas. The help of interpreters may be provided for interaction between native users of language/dialect and non-users. Certain incentives in the form of stipends, scholarships, preferences in jobs, etc. may also prove handy in attracting the youth towards languages and dialects which are on the verge of extinction. State patronage can also help in the preservation of languages.

Working with Words

Given below are some interesting combinations of words. Explain why they have been used together.

- (a) ghostly dust devils
- (b) desert sky
- (c) stunning artefacts
- (d) funerary treasures
- (e) scientific detachment
- (f) dark-bellied clouds

- (g) casket grey
- (h) eternal brilliance
- (i) ritual resins
- (j) virtual body

Answer:

In each combination of words, one word is an adjective and it modifies as well as reinforces the meaning of the noun following / preceeding it. Let us try to understand the meaning of each combination of words.

- ghostly dust devils: ghost-like wicked evil spirits formed by dust
- desert sky: the sky over the desert
- stunning artefacts: extremely attractive manmade objects of eternal brilliance : everlasting shine
- funerary treasures: collection of valuable things used at a funeral
- scientific detachment: aloofness of a scientist
- dark-bellied clouds: bulging /swelling clouds
- casket grey: (here) grey sky
- eternal brilliance: 'eternal' refers to something timeless. Thus, 'eternal brilliance' refers to timeless luster and shine of jewels and valuables of the King.
- ritual resins: resins applied according to religious rites
- virtual body: body made to appear to exist by computer software

Here are some commonly used medical terms. Find out their meanings.

CT scan

MRI

Tomography

Autopsy

Dialysis

ECG

Postmortem

Angiography Biopsy

Answer:

- CT scan : a medical test in which a machine produces a three-dimensional picture of the inside of a person's body on a computer screen after taking X-rays.
- MRI : an abbreviation for magnetic resonance imaging-a technique for producing images of body organs by measuring the properties of atomic nuclei in a strong magnetic field.
- Tomography : a technique for displaying a cross section through a human body (or other solid object) using X-rays or ultrasound.
- Autopsy: an examination of a dead body to discover the cause of death or the extent of disease.
- Dialysis : a technique of clinical purification of blood, as a substitute for the normal functions of the kidney.

- ECG : abbreviation for electrocardiogram or electrocardiograph; preparing a graph showing the measurement and recording the activity in the heart using electrodes placed on the skin.
- Postmortem : medical examination of the body of a dead person in order to find out how he died.
- Angiography: radiography of blood or lymph vessels, carried out after introduction of a substance that is opaque to X-ray.
- Biopsy : an, examination of tissue taken from the body to discover the presence, cause or extent of a disease.

Things to Do

Question 1. The constellation Orion is associated with the legend of Osiris, the god of the afterlife.

Find out the astronomical descriptions and legends associated with the following:

- (1) Ursa Major (Saptarishi mandala)
- (2) Polaris (Dhruva tara)
- (3) Pegasus (Winged horse)
- (4) Sirius (Dog star)
- (5) Gemini (Mithuna)

Answer:

(1) Ursa Major (Saptarishi mandala):

This bright constellation can be observed all year long as it never sinks below the horizon. It is also known as 'Greater Bear' as it represents the back and tail of the bear. According to Sanskrit mythology this group of seven sages (Saptarishi) also moves around the constant star 'Dhruva Tara' known as Polaris.

(2) Polaris (Dhruva tara):

This star remains constant and always points to the North The direction of Ursa Major keeps changing with the passage of the night but Polaris remains unchanged . It is associated with the legend of Dhruva the six year old boy who was blessed by Lord Vishnu with a permanent and constant abode in the universe.

(3) Pegasus (Winged horse):

This is associated with Greek mythology as the winged horse, sprung from Medusa's blood. It carries lightning bolts for Zeus. Pegasus' constellation may be seen when stars are out.

(4) Sirius (Dog star):

This is associated with the legend of Orion. It is called 'Dog Star' as it represents Orion's large hunting dog. The first glimpse of Sirius in dawn announced the rising of the Nile in ancient Egypt.

(5) Gemini (Mithuna):

A combination of two Nakshatras – Aardhara and Punarvasu and having contradictory qualities.

Question 2. Some of the leaves and flowers for adorning the dead are willow, olive, celery, lotus, cornflower. Which of these are common in our country?

Answer:

In our country, willow, olive, lotus and cornflower are common.

Question 3. Name some leaves and flowers that are used as adornments in our country.

Answer:

Roses, lotus, myrtles, marigold, champa and chameli flowers and the leaves of mango, peepal, banana and basil are used as adornments in our country.



Class 11th English Hornbill Poem Chapter 2 The Laburnum Top Question Answers Gujarat Board

Find Out

Question 1. What is laburnum called in your language.

Answer:

In Gujarati, it is called 'Garmalo'.

Question 2. Which local bird is like the goldfinch.

Answer:

'Indian Lutino Ringneck' is local bird like the goldfinch.

Think it Out

Question 1. What do you notice about the beginning and the ending of the poem?

Answer:

In the beginning of the poem the tree is calm and silent and in the ending it ends with motionless and empty level.

Question 2. To what is the bird's movement compared? What is the basis for the comparison?

Answer:

The goldfinch's movement is compared to that of a lizard. The basis of the comparison is the sleek, abrupt and alert movements of a lizard. The same kinds of movements are observed when the goldfinch arrives on the laburnum tree.

Question 3. Why is the image of the engine evoked by the poet?

Answer:

The engine is the source of energy to run machine. It is compared to bird as she too is a source of energy for her family. As without engine a machine can't work in the same without a mother bird her family can't survive.

Question 4. What do you like most about the poem?

Answer:

I like the simplicity and pictorial presentation of the poem. The comparison between bird's movement with machine and Lizard is made in nice way. Also, chirruping and trilling of goldfinch bring to us audio imagery.

Question 5. What does the phrase 'her barred face identity mask' mean?

Answer:

The phrase means that the bird's barred or covered face becomes her identity mask for recognition.

Note Down

Question 1. the sound words in the poem

Answer:

The sound words in this poem are chirrup, chitterings, trillings, whistle-chirrup.

Question 2. the movement words in the poem :

Answer:

enters flirts out, stokes launches away

Question 3. the dominant colour in the poem :

Answer:

Yellow

List the Following

Question 1. Words which describe 'sleek', 'alert' and 'abrupt' in the poem.

Answer:

Words which describe 'sleek', 'alert' and 'abrupt' in the poem are: sleek – delicate alert – flirt abrupt – startlement

Question 2. Words with the sound 'ch' as in 'chart' and 'tr' as in trembles in the poem.

Answer:

In the poem, the words with the sound 'ch' are 'chirrup' and 'chitterlings'. The words with the sound 'tr' are 'tremor', 'trillings' and 'trembles'.

Question 3. Other sounds that occur frequently in the poem.

Answer:

The other sounds that occur frequently in the poem are listed below:

'-st' as in 'still', 'startlement' and 'stokes', '-ill' as in 'still', 'till', 'trillings' and 'thrills', 'ing' as in 'yellowing', 'twitching', 'chitterings', 'trillings' and 'whisperings'.

Try this Out

Write four lines in verse form on any tree that you see around you.

Answer:

A tree is a tree It is naked and It has no consciousness.

When it is cut

Does it feel, any pain?

Class 11th English Hornbill Poem Chapter 3 The Voice of the Rain Question Answers Gujarat Board

Think it Out

Answer the following questions:

Question 1. There are two voices in the poem. Who do they belong to? Which lines indicate this?

Answer:

The poem begins in a conversational tone. The two voices in the poem are the voice of the poet and the voice of the rain. The lines that indicate the voice of the poet and the rain are, "And who art thou? Said I to the soft-falling shower," and the lines that indicate the voice of the rain are, "I am the Poem of Earth, said the voice of the rain".

Question 2. What does the phrase 'strange to tell' mean? ,

Answer:

The phrase 'strange to tell' means that it is quite strange for the poet to believe and express in words that the soft-falling rain replied to his question. At the beginning of the poem, the poet inquires the rain about its identity, to which the rain replies that it is the 'Poem of Earth'.

Question 3. There is a parallel drawn between rain and music. Which words indicate this? Explain the similarity between the two.

Answer:

The lines, "I am the Poem of Earth", said by the voice of the rain, reflects a connection between rain and poetry. This connection becomes more conspicuous in the final two lines, "(For song, issuing from its birth-place, after fulfilment, wandering Reck'd or Unreck'd, duly with love returns)".

In these lines, the poet draws similarities between rain and music observing that the life-cycle of rain and song are alike. The song issues from the heart of the poet and travels to reach others. It wanders and, whether heard and enjoyed or not, eventually returns to its creator with all due love. Similarly, rain originates from the earth, and after fulfilling its role of spreading beauty and purity, returns to its origin. Both are perpetual in nature. Moreover, the sound of the soft-falling rain is in itself a kind of music.

Question 4. How is the cyclic movement of rain brought out in the poem? Compare it with what you have learnt in science.

Answer:

In the poem, the water rises from the 'land and the bottomless sea' to reach the sky. There, it transforms itself into vague formation of clouds, different in their structure than the water from which they originate. After wandering, these clouds descend to the earth in the form of rain to provide relief to the drought-ridden areas and infuse life into the unborn and latent seeds. The rain renders the earth with beauty and purity.

In science, we learn the cyclical process of rain in terms like evaporation, condensation, precipitation, flowing rivers, groundwater and ocean water etc., while in the poem the same process becomes interesting and unusual. The rain speaks itself to describe its course. The poem puts forward how rain never loses its core essence even after changing into various forms.

Question 5. Why are the last two lines put within brackets?

Answer:

The last two lines of the poem have been put within brackets as they do not form the part of the conversation between the poet and the rain. The lines in the bracket indicate the reflections, observations and thoughts of the poet. He makes observations about the life-course of a song and draws similarities between the life-cycle of a song and rain.

Question 6. List the pair of opposites found in the poem?

Answer:

- Day, night
- Reck'd unchecked
- Rise, descend

Notice the following sentence patterns :

Question 1. And who art thou? said I to the soft-falling shower.

Answer:

I enquired the soft-falling rain about its identity.

Question 2. I am the Poem of Earth, said the voice of the rain.

Answer:

The voice of the rain introduced itself as the Poem of Earth.

Question 3. Eternal I rise

Answer:

The voice of the rain explained its upward movement towards the sky as eternal.

Question 4. For song duly with love returns. Rewrite the above sentences in prose.

Answer:

The poet says that, similar to the natural cycle of the rain, a song originates from the heart of the poet, travels to reach others and after fulfilling its purpose (whether acknowledged or not), it returns to the poet with all due love.

Question 5. Look for some more poems on the rain and see how this one is different from them.

Answer:

- 'The Rainy Day' by Rabindranath Tagore.
- 'Song for the Rainy Season' by Elizabeth Bishop
- 'An Autumn Rain-Scene' by Thomas Hardy

