

# Glimpses of India

- I. A Baker from Goa — Lucio Rodrigues  
II. Coorg — Lokesh Abrol  
III. Tea from Assam — Arup Kumar Datta



## OBJECTIVE Type Questions

[ 1 mark ]

### Extract Based Questions

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

Dear Teacher

"Tell me another!" scoffed Pranjol. "We have an Indian legend too. Bodhidharma, an ancient Buddhist ascetic, cut off his eyelids because he felt sleepy during meditations. Ten tea plants grew out of the eyelids. The leaves of these plants when put in hot water and drunk, banished sleep." "Tea was first drunk in China," Rajvir added, "as far back as 2700 B.C.! In fact, words such as tea, chai and chini are from the Chinese. Tea came to Europe only in the sixteenth century and was drunk more as medicine than as beverage.

[CBSE Question Bank 2021]

- (A) The main idea of this extract is:

- (a) Tea as a popular beverage in Europe and how it spread.
- (b) Origin of tea in India and why it became popular in Europe.
- (c) Importance of India in popularising tea and influencing Europe.
- (d) Indian legend on tea and how it travelled from China to Europe.

- (B) Why do you think Pranjol 'scoffed'?

- (a) He was upset with the legend Rajvir shared.
- (b) He was mocking Rajvir for his lack of knowledge.
- (c) He was amused and tickled at what Rajvir shared.
- (d) He was impressed with what Rajvir had shared.

- (C) Pick the option that includes the tea label information that corresponds to the given sentence. "The leaves of these plants when put in hot water and drunk, banished sleep."

- (1) Its calming effects may be attributed

to an antioxidant called apigenin, which is found in abundance in chamomile tea. Apigenin binds to specific receptors in your brain that may decrease anxiety and initiate sleep.

- (2) It increases levels of a neurotransmitter called gamma-aminobutyric acid (GABA) and improves overall sleep quality by shortening the time it takes to fall asleep and decreasing night-time awakenings.

- (3) It interferes with REM sleep, has some unwanted side effects, keeps sleep away and allows the possibility of inducing hours of sleeplessness and increased night-time awakenings.

- (4) It alleviates anxious thoughts and soothes the spirit before bedtime. It improves energy levels and helps banish stress and results in a better night's sleep, naturally.

- (a) (1)                      (b) (2)

- (c) (3)                      (d) (4)

- (D) Based on the inference from the extract, which of these is NOT TRUE about tea drinking in sixteenth century Europe? Dr. Smith is a doctor of sixteenth century Europe.

- (a) Dr. Smith encouraged drinking green tea whenever available, to reduce chances of tooth loss.

- (b) Dr. Smith prescribed regular tea drinking to all his patients with a weak heart.

- (c) Dr. Smith always served tea as a refreshment when he has guests, as they all enjoyed this beverage.



- (d) Dr. Smith usually recommended black tea to reduce inflammation in the body.
- (E) ② Based on this extract, how do you think Rajvir felt while narrating?
- (a) (1) excited (2) agitated  
 (b) (1) hysterical (2) nervous  
 (c) (1) nervous (2) agitated  
 (d) (1) enthusiastic (2) passionate

**Ans.** (A) (d) Indian legend on tea and how it travelled from China to Europe.

**Explanation:** In the extract, Rajvir tells Pranjol about the Indian legend related to the origin of tea and how tea travelled from China to Europe. Hence, (a) is the right answer.

- (B) (c) He was amused and tickled at what Rajvir shared.

**Explanation:** The term 'scoffed' means to speak mockingly to tease someone. When Rajvir shared the information of the origins of tea, Pranjol was amused by his knowledge of tea and he mockingly tickled Rajvir to ask him more. Pranjol wasn't (a) upset with Rajvir, he didn't (b) mock him for his lack of knowledge, nor was he (d) impressed with what Rajvir shared. He was (c) amused and tickled at what Rajvir shared. Hence (c) is the right answer.

- (C) (c) (3)

**Explanation:** Options (1), (2) & (4) give information on the 'initiation or better quality of sleep' using tea while option (3) gives information on the 'banishment of sleep' by tea. Hence, (c) is the right answer.

- (D) (c) Dr. Smith always served tea as a refreshment when he has guests, as they all enjoyed this beverage.

**Explanation:** The tea was drunk more as medicine than as a beverage in the sixteenth century in Europe. Dr. Smith would not recommend drinking tea (c) as a refreshing beverage. Options (a), (b), and (d) are all recommended as medicines. Hence, (c) is the right answer.

**2. Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow:**

*During our childhood in Goa, the baker used to be our friend, companion and guide. He used to come at least twice a day. Once, when he set out in the morning on his selling round, and then again, when he returned after emptying his huge basket. The jingling thud of his*

*bamboo woke us up from sleep and we ran to meet and greet him. Why was it so? Was it for the love of the loaf? Not at all. The loaves were bought by some Paskine or Bastine, the maid-servant of the house! What we longed for were those bread-bangles which we chose carefully. Sometimes it was sweet bread of special make.*

- (A) In the narrator's childhood, the baker used to be his:

- (a) friend, neighbour, guide  
 (b) friend, companion, guide  
 (c) partner, classmate, companion  
 (d) classmate, companion, friend

- (B) ② What did the baker sell?

- (a) cupcakes (b) toast  
 (c) bread (d) tortilla

- (C) The children woke up on the 'jingling thud' of the baker in the love for:

- (a) bread bangles (b) bread loaves  
 (c) breadsticks (d) brown bread

- (D) The loaves of bread were brought by:

- (1) Paskine  
 (2) narrator  
 (3) Bastine  
 (4) elders of Goa  
 (5) children  
 (a) (1) & (5) (b) (3) & (4)  
 (c) (2) & (5) (d) (1) & (3)

- (E) Which word is NOT similar to 'thud'?

- (a) hush (b) boom  
 (c) thunder (d) thump

**Ans.** (A) (b) friend, companion, guide

**Explanation:** It is clear from the extract that the baker used to be the narrator's (b) friend, companion, and guide. Hence, (b) is the right answer.

- (C) (a) bread bangles

**Explanation:** It is clear from the extract that the children 'longed for those (a) bread-bangles which they chose carefully'. They didn't want any (b) bread loaves, (c) breadsticks or (d) brown bread. Hence, (a) is the right answer.

- (D) (d) (1) & (3)

**Explanation:** It is clear from the extract that the loaves were not brought by the (2) narrator or the (5) children but they were brought by the (1) Paskines and (3) Bastines, the maid-servant. (4) The elders of Goa aren't mentioned in the text. Hence, (D) is the right answer.





(E) (a) hush

**Explanation:** The term 'thud' refers to the dull heavy sound. Here, options (b), (c) and (d) are similar in meaning to the term thud while (a) hush means quietly or in a low voice. Hence, (a) is the right answer.

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

*The climb to the Brahmagiri hills brings you into a panoramic view of the entire misty landscape of Coorg. A walk across the rope bridge leads to the sixty-four-acre island of Nisargadhama. Running into Buddhist monks from India's largest Tibetan settlement, at nearby Bylakuppe, is a bonus. The monks, in red, ochre and yellow robes, are amongst the many surprises that wait to be discovered by visitors searching for the heart and soul of India, right here in Coorg.*

(A) 'The climb to the Brahmagiri hills brings you into a panoramic view'. 'Panoramic view' refers to the:

- (a) wide view of the complete surroundings
- (b) short view of the distant surroundings
- (c) narrow view of close surroundings
- (d) pretty view of surroundings

(B) Choose the option that represents the view of Coorg:



(a) (b) (c) (d)

(C) Pick out the statement that is NOT TRUE.

- (a) A walk across the rope bridge leads to the fifty-four-acre island of Nisargadhama.
- (b) Running into Buddhist monks from India's largest Tibetan settlement, at nearby Bylakuppe, is a bonus.
- (c) The climb to the Brahmagiri hills brings you into a panoramic view of the entire misty landscape of Coorg.

(d) The monks, in red, ochre and yellow robes, are amongst the many surprises that wait to be discovered by visitors searching for the heart and soul of India, right here in Coorg.

(D) Which word DOES NOT relate to the term 'visitors'?

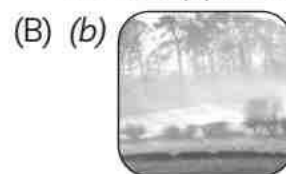
- (a) travellers (b) tourist
- (c) sightseer (d) resident

(E) Pick the option that shows that this extract can be an excerpt of.

- (a) fiction (b) travelogue
- (c) diary-entry (d) article

Ans. (A) (a) wide view of the complete surroundings

**Explanation:** The term 'panoramic view' refers to the wide view of the surroundings. Hence, (a) is the right answer.



**Explanation:** It is clear from the extract that the climb to the Brahmagiri hills brings you into a panoramic view of the entire 'misty' landscape of Coorg. Hence, (b) is the right answer.

(C) (a) A walk across the rope bridge leads to the fifty-four-acre island of Nisargadhama.

**Explanation:** Options (b), (c) and (d) are clearly mentioned in the extract while option (a) is false as a walk across the rope bridge leads to the 'sixty-four-acre' island of Nisargadhama, not 'fifty-four-acre'.

(D) (d) resident

**Explanation:** The term 'visitors' refers to people who visit places. Here, options (a), (b) and (c) are all similar to 'visitors' while (d) resident is the person native to that place. Hence, (d) is the right answer.

(E) (b) travelogue

**Explanation:** The extract is written about the best tourists' spots and views in Coorg. These types of descriptions are found in (b) travelogues. It is not a (a) fiction, (c) diary-entry or an (d) article. Hence, (b) is the right answer.

## SUBJECTIVE Type Questions

### Short Answer Type-I Questions (SA-I) [ 2 marks ]

Answer the following questions in 20-30 words:

4. How did bakers become synonymous with celebrations and occasions in Goa?

[CBSE Question Bank 2021]

Ans. The bakers became synonymous with celebrations and occasions in Goa as no important occasion or festival was accomplished without the bakery items. The Bread had been an essential part of every occasion in Goa.





**5. Do adventure sports like river rafting and rock climbing require a person to possess just physical strength? Why/Why not?**

**Ans.** No, adventure sports like river rafting and rock climbing do not require a person to possess just physical strength as mental strength plays even a more vital role in it. If a person is physically strong but he isn't ready to take any risk or isn't mentally strong, he can't perform such adventurous activities.

**6. Pranjol buried his head in his detective book while Rajvir was eager to look at the beautiful scenery during the train journey. Why do you think there was a difference in their excitement levels?**

[CBSE Question Bank 2021]

**Ans.** Rajvir was so amazed to see the lush greenery of the tea gardens and the beautiful scenery during the train journey as he was visiting Assam for the first time but Pranjol had been born and brought up in those surroundings, so it wasn't anything new for him. Hence, he wasn't as excited as Rajvir.

**7. Why is Coorg called the land of rolling hills?**

[CBSE 2020]

**Ans.** Coorg is called the land of rolling hills because it is situated on the lush green sloppy hills that seemed to roll one after another.

**8. ② How is the Coorgi tradition of courage and bravery recognized in modern India?**

[CBSE 2019]

**9. "This is a tea country now." Explain this with reference to Assam.**

[CBSE 2013]

**Ans.** Assam is known as a tea country because it has the world's largest concentration of tea plantations. Several tea estates can be found everywhere in Assam.

**10. How do we know that Goa's bakers are very prosperous?**

[CBSE 2019]

**Ans.** The Goan bakers have a very plump jackfruit-like appearance that shows us that they eat well and are prosperous people. They also dress well.

**11. When would the baker come every day? Why did the children run to meet him?**

**Ans.** During the narrator's childhood, the baker would come every day to sell his breads. The

children ran to meet him to look into his basket for the bread bangles.

**12. ② Why did Rajvir join Pranjol?**

**13. What do you know about the people of Coorg?**

**Ans.** Coorgis are fiercely independent people. They belong to the proud race of martial men and beautiful women. They are either the descendants of Greeks or the Arabs. Their valour and hospitality are famous throughout the country.

## Short Answer Type-II Questions (SA-II) [ 3 marks ]

Answer the following questions in 40-50 words:

**14. The baker made his presence known in the morning. How did the baker make his presence known?**

**Ans.** The baker used to come in the morning with the jingling sound of his bamboo stick. He carried his basket on his head that he supported with one of his hand and in the other hand; he had the bamboo stick that he banged on the ground. This sound marked his presence felt in the mornings.

**15. Describe the traditional dress of Coorgis.**

**Ans.** The traditional Coorgi dress is a long black coat with an embroidered waist-belt known as *kuppia*. This dress resembles a lot to *kuffia*, a dress worn by the Arabs and the Kurds.

**16. ② Coorg is a tourist's delight. Discuss.**

**17. What excited Rajvir? Why did Pranjol not share his excitement?**

**Ans.** The beautiful scenery and wide range of green tea gardens excited Rajvir. Pranjol did not share his excitement since he was born and brought up in Assam, a place familiar to him.

**18. What do the elders in Goa still love to remember?**

**Ans.** The elders in Goa still love to remember the good old Portuguese days. They remember the loaves of bread as well as the makers of bread; the people who mixed the flour to make bread, the moulders who moulded the flour and the furnaces and the sounds of the baker's bamboo.





**19. What do we learn about the financial condition of the bakers of Goa?**

**Ans.** The bakers of Goa led a prosperous life in the olden days as baking was a profitable profession. The families and servants of these bakers always looked happy and prosperous. Their plump physique used to be an open testimony to their prosperity.

## Long Answer Type Questions (LA)

[ 5 marks ]

*Answer the following questions in 100-120 words:*

**20. Rajvir was elated after returning home from Assam. He had a lot to tell about his recent visit. Imagine yourself as the narrator of the travelogue 'Tea from Assam' and write an imaginary conversation where Rajvir shares the details about his holidays with Pranjol to his sister, on returning home.**

**Ans. Rajvir:** Oh dear, what a fun-filled trip it was! Although I had researched a lot about tea and its consumption before going to Assam, I learned even more about it when I saw it with my own eyes.

**Rajvir's Sister:** Brother, tell me some facts about tea.

**Rajvir:** Sure! Do you know that the world's largest concentration of tea plantations is in Assam? One can see tea gardens everywhere in Assam. Also, the best yield of tea is in the second-flush or sprouting season, i.e., between May and July.

**Rajvir's Sister:** That's wonderful. I have also read that tea plucking is a wholesome activity and it requires great efforts to do that.

**Rajvir:** Certainly. It's an art. I'm glad I decided to join Pranjol on this trip.

**Rajvir's Sister:** Yes, but next time, take me along with you too.

**Rajvir:** Okay.

**21. In the chapter, 'A Baker from Goa' the narrator talks about his childhood in Goa and his fond memories. Compare the childhood of Nelson Mandela with that of the narrator. [CBSE Question Bank 2021]**

**Ans.** Both the characters in the two chapters remember their good childhood days when things were simple and loving.

In the chapter, 'A Baker from Goa', the author fondly remembers that when he was young, a baker used to visit his street twice. Once in the morning, when he was to start the selling of bread and then in the evening while returning after selling all his bread. The children used to run listening to the jingling thud of his bamboo stick. They wanted to get sweet bread bangles for themselves.

In the chapter, 'Nelson Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom', Mandela remembered that in childhood, the meaning of freedom for him was quite simple. It meant freedom to run in the fields, swim in the clear stream, roast mealies and ride the board backs of slow-moving bulls.

**22. ② Compare and contrast the natural beauty found in Coorg and Assam as described in two travelogues "Coorg" and "Tea from Assam".**

**23. 'Coorg offers a variety of adventures as the district is rich in flora and fauna'. What does Coorg offer to the tourists? How can one reach Coorg?**

**Ans.** Coorg offers a variety of adventures as the district is rich in flora and fauna. River Kaveri flows through Coorg. One can do many activities like river rafting, canoeing, rappelling, etc. Rock climbing and mountain hiking are also famous here. Birds, bees, Macaques, Malabar squirrels, etc. catch attention. One can have a panoramic view from the top of the Brahmagiri hills. Nisargadham and the largest Buddhist Tibetan Settlement which is in Bylakuppe, is also an amazing place to explore. Coorg can be reached by road and rail. By air, the nearest airports to Coorg are Bangalore and Mangalore. Coorg also has a rich heritage and traditional culture to offer.

**24. ② 'If anyone in the street would wear half pants, then he was thought to be a 'pader'. Why? How did a baker collect his bills and who was considered to be a prosperous baker?**

**25. Rajvir was very excited to look at the enticing views from the train. Pranjol was happy too but not as excited as Rajvir because he was born and brought up in Assam.**

Imagine yourself as the narrator and write an imaginary conversation between Rajvir and Pranjol regarding their excitement about the scenic views from the train.

**Ans. Rajvir:** (excitedly) Look Pranjol! How beautiful are these lush green mountains looking under cotton-white clouds.

**Pranjol:** (reading book) Yes, they are. You know Rajvir, I used to be as excited as you when I saw these scenes primarily. Then I became used to it as I was born here and now travel every year to the town.

**Rajvir:** Oh yes, you told me about it earlier.

**Pranjol:** Yes, and that's why I don't get much

excited anymore.

**Rajvir:** I understand Pranjol. But I really love these scenes. Totally!

**Pranjol:** (happily) Haahahaha.....Enjoy my friend!

26. ✎ Write a short travelogue on Coorg. You may start with:

*"Coorg is the smallest district in Karnataka, situated about 260 km from Bangalore....."*

