

Madam Rides the Bus

Read the extract given below and answer the questions that follow by choosing the most appropriate alternative from those given below:

(1)

At last the cow moved off the road. And soon the bus came to a rail road crossing. A speck of a train could be seen in the distance growing bigger and bigger as it drew near. Then it rushed fast the crossing gate with a tremendous roar and rattle, shaking the bus. Then the bus went on and passed the train station. From there it traversed a busy, well – laid-out shopping street and, turning, entered a wider thoroughfare. Such big, bright-looking shops What glittering displays of clothes and other merchandise! Such big crowds! Stuck dumb with wonder, Valli gaped at everything. Then the bus stopped and everyone got off except Valli.

Question 1.

The train looked like a speck:

- (a) in the distance
- (b) in the border
- (c) in the grass
- (d) in the delight

▼ [Answer](#)

- (a) in the distance
-

Question 2.

The train rushed fast the crossing gate with a:

- (a) thud
- (b) crashing speed
- (c) tremendous roar
- (d) lightning roar

▼ [Answer](#)

- (c) tremendous roar
-

Question 3.

Valli did not get off the bus because:

- (a) she was going back on the same bus
- (b) she was afraid of it
- (c) she was no work outside
- (d) she was desperate

▼ [Answer](#)

- (a) she was going back on the same bus
-

Question 4.

The word 'displays' means:

- (a) ignores
- (b) promotes
- (c) attracts
- (d) shows

▼ [Answer](#)

(d) shows

Question 5.

Valli was stuck dumb with wonder for:

- (a) attractive swings
- (b) big crowds
- (c) a bull
- (d) a snake charmer

▼ [Answer](#)

(b) big crowds

(2)

Her first journey – what careful, painstaking, elaborate plans she had had to make for it! She had thriftily saved whatever stray coins came her way, resisting every temptation to buy peppermints, toys, balloons, and the like, and finally she had saved a total of sixty paise. How difficult it had been, particularly that day at the village fair. But she had resolutely stifled a strong desire to ride the merry-go-round, even though she had the money.

Question 1.

She' here refers to:

- (a) Jolly
- (b) elderly woman
- (c) a passenger
- (d) Valli

▼ [Answer](#)

(d) Valli

Question 2.

She had to make careful and elaborate plans for:

- (a) her first journey
- (b) her beautiful dress
- (c) her doll
- (d) her icecream

▼ Answer

(a) her first journey

Question 3.

Her total saved money was:

- (a) twenty paise
- (b) thirty paise
- (c) sixty paise
- (d) fifty paise

▼ Answer

(c) sixty paise

Question 4.

Valli had to curb a strong desire at fare to:

- (a) ride on elephant
- (b) ride the merry-go-round
- (c) ride on horse
- (d) swing a jhula

▼ Answer

(c) ride on horse

5. The word 'resolutely' means:

- (a) with sadness
- (b) with inclination
- (c) with courage
- (d) with determination

▼ Answer

(d) with determination

(3)

It was the slack time of day, and there were only so; seven passengers on the bus. They were all looking at Valli and laughing with the conductor. Valu was overcome with shyness. Avoiding everyone's eyes, she walked quickly to an empty seat and sat down. "May we start now, madam?" the conductor asked, smiling. Then he blew his whistle twice, and the bus moved forward with a roar. It was a new bus, its outside painted a gleaming white with some green strips along the sides inside, the overhead bars shone like silver. Directly in front of Valli, above the windshield, there was a beautiful clock. The seats were soft and luxurious.

Question 1.

The passengers looking at Valli were:

- (a) ten in number
- (b) eight or ten
- (c) two or three
- (d) six or seven

▼ [Answer](#)

- (d) six or seven
-

Question 2.

Valli was overcome with:

- (a) proud
- (b) shyness
- (c) strength
- (d) power

▼ [Answer](#)

- (b) shyness
-

Question 3.

The outside of the bus was painted:

- (a) black
- (b) brown
- (c) white
- (d) green

▼ [Answer](#)

- (c) white
-

Question 4.

Valli found overhead bars shining like:

- (a) gold
- (b) bronze
- (c) diamond
- (d) silver

▼ [Answer](#)

- (d) silver
-

Question 5.

The noun form of 'laughing' is:

- (a) laugh
- (b) laughingly



- (c) lauglited
- (d) laughable

▼ [Answer](#)

- (a) laugh
-

(4)

Her favourite pastime was standing in the front doorway of her house, watching what was happening in the street outside. There was no playmates of her own age on her street, and this was about all she had to do. But for Valli, standing at the front door was every bit as enjoyable as any of the elaborate games other children play. Watching the stieet gave her many new unusual experiences. The most fascinating thing of all was the bus that travelled between her village and the nearest town. It passed through her street each hour. once going to the town and once coming back.

1. 'Her' here stands for:

- (a) Valli
- (b) a woman
- (c) a neighbour
- (d) conductor

▼ [Answer](#)

- (a) Valli
-

Question 2.

Her favourite pastime was to stand in the front:

- (a) door of her room
- (b) doorway of her house
- (c) lawn of her house
- (d) none of the above

▼ [Answer](#)

- (b) doorway of her house
-

Question 3.

For Valli the most fascinating thing of all was:

- (a) the cow
- (b) the passenger
- (c) the aunt
- (d) the bus

▼ [Answer](#)

- (d) the bus
-

Question 4.

The word 'fascinating' means:

- (a) recreative
- (b) everlasting
- (c) attractive
- (d) longingly

▼ [Answer](#)

(c) attractive

Question 5.

That bus travelled between her village and:

- (a) the nearest church
- (b) the nearest town
- (c) the nearest temple
- (d) the nearest district

▼ [Answer](#)

(b) the nearest town

(5)

The conductor nodded, and she was overcome with sadness. What had been a lovable, beautiful creature just a little while ago had now suddenly lost its charm and its life and looked so horrible, so frightening as it lay there, legs spreadeagled, a fixed stare in its lifeless eyes, blood all over.

Question 1.

'She' here refers to:

- (a) elderly woman
- (b) lady passenger
- (c) Valli
- (d) Jolly

▼ [Answer](#)

(c) Valli

Question 2.

'A lovable, beautiful creature' is referred to:

- (a) cow
- (b) goat
- (c) langur
- (d) cobra

▼ [Answer](#)

(a) cow

Question 3.

'A fixed stare in its lifeless eyes' justified that:

- (a) the animal was asleep
- (b) the animal was dead
- (c) the animal was watching sky
- (d) none of the above

▼ [Answer](#)

(b) the animal was dead

Question 4.

The word 'spreadeagled' means:

- (a) worried
- (b) wet
- (c) wrenched
- (d) spread out

▼ [Answer](#)

(d) spread out

Question 5.

The lines show that the animal was:

- (a) dead
- (b) asleep
- (c) lost
- (d) desperate

▼ [Answer](#)

(a) dead

(6)

Suddenly Valli clapped her hands with glee. A young cow, tail high in the air, was running very fast, right in the middle of the road, right in front of the bus. The bus slowed to a crawl, and the driver sounded his horn loudly again and again. But the more he honked, the more frightened the animal became and the faster it galloped – always right in front of the bus.

Question 1.

Valli clapped her hands with:

- (a) tears in eyes
- (b) smile on lips

- (c) delight
- (d) sadness

▼ [Answer](#)

- (c) delight
-

Question 2.

A young cow was running fast in the:

- (a) street
- (b) gall on len
- (c) corner of the road
- (d) middle of the road

▼ [Answer](#)

- (d) middle of the road
-

Question 3.

The driver of the bus honked the horn:

- (a) once
- (b) slowly
- (c) loudly
- (d) again and again

▼ [Answer](#)

- (c) loudly
-

Question 4.

The word 'frightened' means:

- (a) terrified
- (b) galloped
- (c) delighted
- (d) gleamed

▼ [Answer](#)

- (a) terrified
-

Question 5.

The animal galloped faster right:

- (a) at the back of bus
- (b) in front of the bus
- (c) corner of the bus
- (d) side by side

▼ [Answer](#)

(b) in front of the bus

(7)

"Listen child" said the voice, "you shouldn't stand like that. Sit down." Sitting down, she looked to see who had spoken. It was an elderly man who had been honestly been concerned for her, but she was annoyed by his attention. "There's nobody here who's a child," she said haughtily. "I've paid my thirty paise like everyone else." The conductor chimed in. "Oh, sir, but this is a very grown-up madam. Do you think a mere girl could pay her own fare and travel to the city all alone?"

Question 1.

The child mentioned in the passage is:

- (a) Mali
- (b) Jolly
- (c) Valli
- (d) Tolly

▼ [Answer](#)

(c) Valli

Question 2.

The elderly man's advice to her was that:

- (a) she should not cry
- (b) she should not stand
- (c) she should not weep
- (d) she should not laugh

▼ [Answer](#)

(b) she should not stand

Question 3.

The conductor was indeed a:

- (a) jolly fellow
- (b) irritable fellow
- (c) moody person
- (d) lazy person

▼ [Answer](#)

(a) jolly fellow

Question 4.

The phrase 'a very grown up madam' refers to:

- (a) Jolly
- (b) valli

- (c) elderly woman
- (d) a passenger

▼ [Answer](#)

- (b) valli
-

Question 5.

The word 'annoyed' means:

- (a) became sad
- (b) became happy
- (c) became dull
- (d) became angry

▼ [Answer](#)

- (d) became angry
-

(8)

This wish became stronger and stronger, until it was an overwhelming desire. Valli would stare wistfully at the people who got on or off the bus when it stopped at the street corner. Their faces would kindle in her longings, dreams, and hopes. If one of her friends happened to ride the bus and tried to describe the sights of the town to her, Valli would be too jealous to listen and would shout, in English. "Proud! proud!" Neither she nor her friends really understood the meaning of the word, but they used it often as a slang expression of disapproval.

Question 1.

'This wish' here refers to:

- (a) collect shells on beach
- (b) have a ride on the bus
- (c) prepare a painting
- (d) draw a design

▼ [Answer](#)

- (b) have a ride on the bus
-

Question 2.

Valli would stare at the people when the bus:

- (a) conductor shouted
- (b) stopped at the temple
- (c) honked at the bus stop
- (d) stopped at the street corner

▼ [Answer](#)

- (d) stopped at the street corner

Question 3.

Valli would use the word 'proud' as an expression of:

- (a) disapproval
- (b) approval
- (c) satisfaction
- (d) rejection

▼ [Answer](#)

- (a) disapproval
-

Question 4.

The word 'wist fully' means:

- (a) attractive
- (b) overpowering
- (c) longingly
- (d) full of waist

▼ [Answer](#)

- (c) longingly
-

Question 5.

Neither she nor her friends really understood the meaning of:

- (a) 'mystery'
- (b) 'unending'
- (c) 'kindle'
- (d) 'proud'

▼ [Answer](#)

- (d) 'proud'