

* Select the most appropriate options as answers and complete the following sentences : [10]

1. How old was Rakesh when he planted the seed?

- (A) Six (B) Seven (C) Eight (D) Nine

Ans.: (A) Six

2. Who encouraged Rakesh to plant and look after the tree?

- (A) His teacher (B) His mother (C) His grandfather (D) His friend

Ans. : (C) His grandfather

3. Who has written the story The Cherry Tree?

- (A) R.K. Narayan (B) Rabindranath Tagore
(C) Ruskin Bond (D) Prem Chand

Ans. : (C) Ruskin Bond

4. What did Rakesh do with the cherry seed before planting it?

- (A) He threw it in the dustbin
(B) He rolled it round and round on his tongue
(C) He put it in his pocket
(D) He kept it in his almirah

Ans. : (B) He rolled it round and round on his tongue

5. What does miracle mean in the line, "as though it had performed a miracle"?

- (A) A surprising and wonderful event (B) A magic show
(C) A simple happening (D) A man-made event

Ans.: (A) A surprising and wonderful event

6. Where did Rakesh plant the cherry seed?

- (A) In a pot of his school
(B) In a corner of the garden
(C) On the roadside near his grandfather's house
(D) By the riverside

Ans. : (B) In a corner of the garden

7. How did Rakesh feel when he saw the cherry tree blossoming for the first time?

- (A) Surprised and grateful (B) Sad and anxious
(C) Proud and selfish (D) Angry

Ans.: (A) Surprised and grateful

8. What does the cherry tree symbolize in the story?

(A) Childhood memory

(B) Growth, patience, and perseverance

(C) Beauty of nature

(D) Happiness of festivals

Ans. : (B) Growth, patience, and perseverance

9. Who was the first person to notice the cherry tree?

(A) Rakesh

(B) Grandfather

(C) Rakesh's father

(D) Rakesh's friend

Ans.: (A) Rakesh

10. Which characteristic of Rakesh is mainly shown in the story?

(A) Carelessness and anger

(B) Patience and determination

(C) Laziness and laidback

(D) Curiosity only

Ans. : (B) Patience and determination

*** Say whether the following sentences are true or false :**

[5]

11. Rakesh planted the cherry seed when he was nine years old.

Ans. : False

12. The cherry plant faced dangers from goats, insects, and even a woman with a sickle.

Ans. : True

13. It took 10 years for the cherry tree to blossom.

Ans. : False

14. Rakesh's parents sent him to Manali to stay with his grandfather.

Ans. : False

15. There were no school in Rakesh's village.

Ans. : True

*** Select the most appropriate words from the box and fill in the blanks in the text given below :**

[5]

16. Rakesh planted the _____ in a corner of the garden.

Ans. : cherry seed

17. The cherry tree survived in spite of being _____ by goats and insects.

Ans. : eaten

18. It took _____ years for the tree to blossom for the first time.

Ans. : four

19. The cherry tree symbolises _____ and perseverance.

Ans. : patience

20. Rakesh's _____ encouraged him to take care of the cherry plant.

Ans. : grandfather

*** Answer The Following Questions In One Sentence.**

[6]

21. Who has written the story The Cherry Tree?

Ans. : Ruskin Bond has written the story.

22. What danger did the cherry plant face from animals?

Ans. : The cherry plant was grazed by goats, eaten by insects and trodden by foot.

23. What did Rakesh do with the cherry seed after eating the fruit?

Ans. : After eating the fruit he planted it.

24. How did Grandfather describe the blossoming of the cherry tree?

Ans. : Grandfather described the blossoming of the cherry tree as a miracle performed by the tree.

25. What gift did nature give to Rakesh after four years of waiting?

Ans. : The nature gifted the cherry tree which blossomed with pink flowers.

26. What did the cherry tree symbolise for Rakesh?

Ans. : In the story, the cherry tree symbolised patience, perseverance, and the joy of growth.

*** Answer the following questions.**

[34]

27. Why did Rakesh's parents send him to Mussoorie?

Ans. : Rakesh's parents wanted him to receive good education, so they sent him to live with his grandfather in Mussoorie because their village had no schools.

28. Why did Rakesh let the praying-mantis remain on the branch of the cherry tree?

Ans. : Rakesh let the praying-mantis remain on the branch because it was the cherry tree's first visitor, and he didn't want to disturb it.

29. How is life in the Himalayan foothills described in the story?

Ans. : Life in the Himalayan foothills is described as simple, close to nature, and full of beauty. The people grow crops on terraced fields, face long winters, and enjoy the sights and sounds of forests, birds, and seasonal changes.

30. What might Rakesh mean when he says, "Is this what it feels to be God?" at the end of the story?

Ans. : Rakesh is filled with awe and a sense of duty after witnessing the growth of a tree from a tiny seed he planted. Similar to, how he imagines, God must feel. His words capture the joy of creation, caring, and the ability to give life.

31. How does the writer describe the relationship between Rakesh and his grandfather?

Ans. : The writer shows their relationship as warm, affectionate, and nurturing. Grandfather guides Rakesh with wisdom, shares stories, and spends time with him, while Rakesh respects and learns from him.

32. What can you infer about the connection between humans and nature based on the story?

Ans. : The story shows that humans and nature are deeply connected. By planting, protecting, and caring for the cherry tree, Rakesh and Grandfather experience joy, patience, and a sense of belonging with nature.

33. Imagine Rakesh reflects on his wonderful experience of watching a seed being transformed into a full-grown cherry tree. Write how he must have felt.

Ans. : Rakesh must have felt amazed and proud, realizing how a small seed he once pressed into the soil had become a blossoming tree. He would feel grateful for the lessons of patience, care, and the miracle of growth, and deeply connected to the tree as if it were a part of his own life.

34. How is the relationship between Rakesh and his grandfather reflected in the story 'The Cherry Tree'?

Ans. : Rakesh and his grandfather share a warm bond. Grandfather encourages him to plant and nurture the cherry tree. He, thus, teaches Rakesh patience, responsibility, and love for nature, strengthening their affectionate relationship.

35. How did Rakesh feel when he first saw the growth of the cherry tree?

Ans. : Rakesh was fascinated and thrilled to witness the cherry tree's first growth. He was amazed and proud when the seed sprouted, realising that his small action had produced life.

36. What role did Grandfather play in the story 'The Cherry Tree'?

Ans. : Rakesh was urged by his grandfather to plant and care the seed. After patiently and wisely guiding him, he was subsequently delighted at the cherry tree's miracle of blossoming.

37. What difficulties did the cherry tree face while growing?

Ans. : The plant faced a lot of difficulties. Its leaves were eaten by goats, it was assaulted by insects, and once a woman nearly destroyed it with a sickle. The plant persevered and grew in spite of these challenges.

38. Why did Rakesh plant the cherry seed?

Ans. : Rakesh planted the cherry tree because he loved cherries and wanted to grow his own tree. Inspired by his grandfather, he wished to nurture something small into life.

39. What role did nature play in the survival of the cherry tree?

Ans. : Nature provided the necessary elements like sunlight and rain for the cherry tree's survival, but it also presented challenges through insects and the need for the tree to persevere against various external threats.

40. What lesson does the cherry tree teach us about patience and perseverance?

Ans. : The cherry tree teaches that significant achievements, like a tree blossoming, require long periods of patience and consistent perseverance despite difficulties. It shows that continuous, gentle effort over time yields beautiful results.

41. What challenges did the cherry tree face while growing?

Ans. : The cherry tree faced challenges such as being grazed by goats, eaten by insects, trodden by foot, and nearly destroyed by a woman with a sickle.

42. Narrate the journey of the cheery seed from planting to blossoming into a full tree.

Ans. : Rakesh planted the cherry seed carelessly in a corner of the garden. It sprouted and he watched its early growth with fascination. The sapling faced several dangers from goats, insects, and a woman with a sickle, but it persevered. After four years of care and patience from Rakesh and his grandfather, the tree finally blossomed with pink flowers, marking the culmination of its journey.

43. What message does the story convey about man's relationship with nature and the environment?

Ans. : The story conveys that humans have a deep and meaningful relationship with nature, which is nurtured through care, patience, and respect. It highlights that caring for nature brings immense joy, a sense of purpose, and teaches valuable life lessons about growth and resilience, suggesting a necessary peaceful coexistence.

* Answer the following questions.

[9]

44. What feelings did Rakesh have as he sowed the seed and saw it grow?

Ans. : Rakesh initially sowed the seed carelessly and ignored it. He was fascinated and thrilled when it sprouted. He was concerned about it as it struggled, but he remained optimistic. After four years, the tree finally blossomed, and he was filled with gratitude, pride, and amazement. He considered the blossoms to be a natural wonder in addition to being exquisite.

45. How does Ruskin Bond's appreciation of nature manifest itself in 'The Cherry Tree'?

Ans. : Ruskin Bond frequently discusses the splendor of nature in his writing. In 'The Cherry Tree', he demonstrates how, in spite of numerous obstacles, a little seed placed carelessly can grow into a stunning tree. The narrative honors endurance, patience, and the profound happiness that results from preserving nature. Bond



expresses his own regard for the environment and his conviction that people must coexist peacefully with it through Rakesh and his grandfather's love of the tree.

46. Discuss the significance of the title *The Cherry Tree*?

Ans. : The title is important because the plot centers around Rakesh's planting of a cherry tree. It's not only about the plant; it's also about the perseverance, patience, and care needed to keep it healthy. The cherry tree comes to represent resiliency, growth, and the wonders of nature. The beauty of life itself and the fruit of persistent effort are symbolised by its flowering. As a result, the cherry tree accurately embodies the story's main idea.

*** Read the following prose extract carefully and answer the questions given below:** [20]

"Have a cherry, Grandfather," he said, as soon as he saw his grandfather in the garden.

Grandfather took one cherry and Rakesh promptly ate the other two.

He kept the last seed in his mouth for some time, rolling it round and round on his tongue until all the tang had gone. Then he placed the seed on the palm of his hand and studied it.

"Are cherry seeds lucky?" asked Rakesh.

"Of course."

"Then I'll keep it."

"Nothing is lucky if you put it away. If you want luck, you must put it to some use."

47. Substitute the underlined phrase with a correct word from the extract.

The Kho-kho captain changed her strategy quickly and without delay when a new player came in from the opposing team.

48. What does Rakesh's action of rolling the cherry seed in his mouth most likely suggest about his mood at that moment?

- (A) He is feeling impatient and restless.
- (B) He is enjoying the taste and the moment.
- (C) He is bored and has nothing better to do.
- (D) He is thoughtful and feeling playful.

49. Complete the following sentence suitably with reference to Rakesh and his grandfather.

Rakesh's decision to plant the seed shows that _____.

(he respects and values his grandfather's advice/he has a close bond with his grandfather and a willingness to learn from him)

50. How does the grandfather's advice reflect his view about luck and effort?

- Ans. :**
1. The Kho-kho captain changed her strategy promptly when a new player came in from the opposing team.
 2. (B) He is enjoying the taste and the moment.
 3. Complete the sentence :

Rakesh's decision to plant the seed shows that **he has a close bond with his grandfather and a willingness to learn from him.**

4. The grandfather's advice reflects his view that luck has meaning only when combined with action and effort; simply keeping something will not bring results, but using it wisely will.

Winter came early. The cherry tree bent low with the weight of snow. Field-mice sought shelter in the roof of the cottage. The road from the valley was blocked, and for several days there was no newspaper, and this made Grandfather quite grumpy. His stories began to have unhappy endings.

In February it was Rakesh's birthday. He was nine-and the tree was four, but almost as tall as Rakesh.

51. Complete the following sentence suitably.

The phrase 'field-mice sought shelter in the roof of the cottage' suggests that _____.

52. What can be inferred about the cherry tree's toughness from the line, 'The cherry tree bent low with the weight of snow'?

(A) The weight of the tree was more than the snow.

(B) The tree could withstand harsh weather.

(C) The tree was growing close to the ground.

(D) The snow gave support to the tree.

53. How did the early winter affect Grandfather's mood and storytelling?

54. Complete the sentence by choosing the correct option.

The comparison of Rakesh's age to the cherry tree's age symbolises _____.

(the tree's growth paralleling Rakesh's own development/the tree standing as a dear one on Rakesh's birthday)

Ans. : 1. The phrase 'field-mice sought shelter in the roof of the cottage' suggests that the cold forced even small animals to leave the open fields and find warmer places to survive.

2. (B) The tree could withstand harsh weather.

3. The early winter affected Grandfather's mood and storytelling because **without newspapers, he got cranky and his stories began to have unhappy endings.**

4. The comparison of Rakesh's age to the cherry tree's age symbolises **the tree's growth paralleling Rakesh's own development.**

Rakesh lived with his grandfather on the outskirts of Mussoorie, just where the forest began. His father and mother lived in a small village fifty miles away, where they grew maize and rice and barley in narrow terraced fields on the lower slopes of the mountain.

But there were no schools in the village, and Rakesh's parents were keen that he should go to school. As soon as he was of school-going age, they sent him to stay with his grandfather in Mussoorie.

55. Why was Rakesh sent to live with his grandfather in Mussoorie?

56. At what age was Rakesh's parents sent him to stay with his grandfather's place?
57. What type of field did Rakesh's parents have?
58. Find the synonym of the word 'Eager' from the passage.

- Ans. :** 1. He was sent to live with his grandfather because there were no schools in his village.
2. As soon as he was of school-going age, his parents sent Rakesh to stay with his grandfather.
3. Terraced fields
4. 'Keen

They knew it was spring when the wild duck flew north again, to Siberia. Early in the morning, when he got up to chop wood and light a fire, Rakesh saw the V-shaped formation streaming northward, the calls of the birds carrying clearly through the thin mountain air.

One morning in the garden he bent to pick up what he thought was a small twig and found to his surprise that it was well rooted. He stared at it for a moment, then ran to fetch Grandfather, calling, 'Dada, come and look, the cherry tree has come up!'

59. What was Rakesh doing early in the morning?
60. What did Rakesh find in the garden one morning?
61. Whom did Rakesh call when he discovered the cherry sprout?
62. Find the synonym of the word 'Thick' from the passage.

- Ans. :** 1. Rakesh was chopping wood and lighting a fire.
2. Rakesh found a small cherry tree sprouting in the garden.
3. Rakesh called his grandfather when he discovered the cherry tree sprout.
4. "Thin

He looked at the tree every morning but it did not seem to be growing very fast, so he stopped looking at it except quickly, out of the corner of his eye. And, after a week or two, when he allowed himself to look at it properly, he found that it had grown-at least an inch!

That year the monsoon rains came early and Rakesh plodded to and from school in raincoat and chappals. Ferns sprang from the trunks of trees, strange-looking lilies came up in the long grass, and even when it wasn't raining the trees dripped and mist came curling up the valley. The cherry tree grew quickly in this season.

63. Why did Rakesh stop looking at the cherry tree every morning?
64. What natural changes happened during the rainy season in the valley?
65. How did Rakesh look at the tree after it seemed slow to grow?
66. Find the synonym of the word 'Unusual' from the passage.

- Ans. :** 1. Rakesh stopped looking at the cherry tree every morning because it was not growing fast.



2. During the rains, ferns sprang from tree trunks, lilies came up in the grass, trees dripped, and mist curled up the valley.
3. He looked at it quickly, out of the corner of his eye.
4. 'Strange-looking

