

* Select the most appropriate options as answers and complete the following sentences : [13]

1. Who has written the story 'Waiting for the Rain'?

- (A) Kamakshi Balasubramanian (B) Ruskin Bond
(C) R. K. Narayan (D) Anita Desai

Ans.: (A) Kamakshi Balasubramanian

2. In the story, Velu is eagerly waiting for :

- (A) Harvest (B) A festival (C) Rain (D) God

Ans. : (C) Rain

3. Who is Velu in the story?

- (A) A carpenter (B) A farmer (C) A shopkeeper (D) A doctor

Ans. : (B) A farmer

4. Why are farmers like Velu worried before the rain?

- (A) The markets are closed
(B) The land is dry and crops cannot grow
(C) They cannot go to the city
(D) The rivers have dried

Ans. : (B) The land is dry and crops cannot grow

5. The land before the monsoon is described as :

- (A) Moist and muddy (B) Parched and cracked
(C) Covered with flowers (D) Sandy and shining

Ans. : (B) Parched and cracked

6. Velu feels the rain is important because :

- (A) It fills the wells and tanks
(B) It brings relief to people and animals
(C) It helps crops to grow
(D) All of these

Ans. : (D) All of these

7. Who depends directly on the rain for livelihood?

- (A) Farmers (B) Doctors (C) Shopkeepers (D) Soldiers

Ans.: (A) Farmers

8. What feature of the old woman is described first in the passage?

- (A) Her wrinkled skin
- (C) Her sparkling eyes

- (B) Her shiny hair
- (D) Her walking shoes

Ans.: (A) Her wrinkled skin

9. Why does Velu feel punished?

- (A) Because his crops were stolen
- (B) Because he cannot till the land without rains
- (C) Because he is too old to work
- (D) Because his family left him

Ans. : (B) Because he cannot till the land without rains

10. What advice does the old woman give Velu?

- (A) To leave farming
- (B) To rest himself
- (C) To let the land rest
- (D) To move to another village

Ans. : (C) To let the land rest

11. According to the old woman, when there is no rain, the land is :

- (A) Barren
- (B) Resting and undisturbed
- (C) Destroyed by drought
- (D) Abandoned by farmers

Ans. : (B) Resting and undisturbed

12. How does Velu feel at the end of the passage?

- (A) Angry and helpless
- (B) Puzzled and bitter
- (C) Laughing and happy
- (D) Silent and dejected

Ans. : (C) Laughing and happy

13. What does the old woman compare Nature to?

- (A) A strict teacher
- (B) A powerful king
- (C) A kind mother
- (D) An honest friend

Ans. : (C) A kind mother

* Say whether the following sentences are true or false :

[7]

14. Velu is a farmer who waits for the rains.

Ans. : True

15. Before the monsoon, the land is green and moist.

Ans. : False

16. Velu dislikes the rainy season.

Ans. : False



17. Rain is shown as a symbol of hope and renewal.

Ans. : True

18. Velu felt rewarded for his hard and honest work.

Ans. : False

19. According to the old woman, the earth has been working for thousands of years.

Ans. : True

20. Velu was angry because he had not sown or ploughed for the first time in ten years.

Ans. : False

*** Select the most appropriate words from the box and fill in the blanks in the text given below :** [5]

21. Farmers cannot sow their _____ without rainfall.

Ans. : crops

22. Velu said this was the first season in _____ or six years that he had not sown or ploughed.

Ans. : five

23. The old woman reminded Velu that the _____ too needs rest.

Ans. : land

24. Nature, according to the old woman, is like a _____ to all living beings.

Ans. : mother

25. Soon Velu noticed tiny _____ falling on his shoulder.

Ans. : drops (of rain)

*** Answer The Following Questions In One Sentence.** [8]

26. Who was Velu?

Ans. : Velu was a hardworking farmer.

27. What crops did Velu cultivate on his land?

Ans. : Velu cultivated jowar one season and dhal the next.

28. For how many years had Velu been working on his land without rest?

Ans. : Velu had been working on his land without rest for nearly six years.

29. What was missing at the end of summer?

Ans. : At the end of the summer the rains were missing.

30. Where did Velu go to inquire about the rains?

Ans. : Velu went to the weather office to inquire about the rains.

31. Who did Velu meet under the tree?

Ans. : Velu met an old woman sitting under the tree.

32. What did the old woman compare Nature to?

Ans. : The old woman compared Nature to a mother who needs rest.

33. What was the first sign of rain that Velu noticed?

Ans. : The first sign of rain that Velu noticed was a cool breeze and a drop of rain on his shoulder.

* **Answer the following questions.**

[32]

34. How does the old woman convey Nature's wisdom to Velu?

Ans. : By personifying the Earth as a mother who has toiled diligently for generations, the elderly woman gently conveys the knowledge of Nature. With gentle words and a smile, she helps Velu understand that the land has to rest in order to regain its fertility and power, just like people do.

35. The writer says, 'The fields lay untended...' Why couldn't the farmers tend to their fields in the absence of rain?

Ans. : Without rain, the land grew dry, cracked, and barren, making it impossible for the farmers to care for their farms. In such severe conditions, farming would have been pointless because crops could not grow without water.

36. Support the old woman's perspective that the land needs rest just like people do.

Ans. : Just like how humans cannot work nonstop, the earth runs out of resources after continuous agriculture. When it is given time to rest, the natural rhythm necessary for wholesome crop growth is maintained, future fertility is guaranteed, and the soil's nutrients are restored.

37. What can be inferred about Velu's character based on his reaction to the drought?

Ans. : Velu is honest, hardworking, and incredibly loyal to his land. But when it doesn't rain, he gets agitated and nervous. His perplexity and determination to find solutions demonstrate his practicality, optimism, and willingness to absorb knowledge from those with more life experience than he does.

38. What does the story suggest about the life of farmers and their relationship with nature?

Ans. : The story suggests that the rhythms of nature are intricately woven with the life of farmers. Rain, soil, and seasons all affect their way of life. It emphasizes that while determination is essential for life, respecting the cycles and boundaries of nature is just as crucial.



39. How might the rest and care of land contribute to a balanced and sustainable ecosystem?

Ans. : Allowing land to rest restores its nutrients, maintains soil fertility, and protects biodiversity. By lowering the chance of soil erosion and depletion, this promotes sustainable farming and a healthier environment for coming generations.

40. Why did Velu not agree to consult astrologers?

Ans. : Velu believed that these meetings had never been helpful. He thought that consulting astrologers would not cause rain to fall.

41. How did the weather officers respond to Velu's inquiry?

Ans. : The weather officers indicated that they couldn't figure it out either. They were unable to forecast why the rains had not fallen despite favourable circumstances.

42. Why was Velu dejected and angry?

Ans. : Despite years of honest and diligent labour, Velu was unable to cultivate crops, sow seeds, or plough without rain. He was concerned about providing for his family.

43. What advice did the old woman give to Velu?

Ans. : The old woman advised Velu to let the land rest, just as humans need rest, since the earth also works when ploughed and sown.

44. How did Velu feel when the rains finally came?

Ans. : In the lovely, scented rain, Velu rushed home, feeling relieved, happy, and laughing.

45. Describe Velu's character as a farmer.

Ans. : Velu is depicted as an honest, hardworking, and incredibly loyal farmer to his land. He is practical and determined, always seeking solutions during tough times like the drought, and is willing to learn from those with more experience.

46. Explain the conversation between Velu and the old woman.

Ans. : The conversation centers on the necessity of rest for the land, which Velu was struggling to accept. The old woman personifies the Earth as a mother who, having worked for ages, needs rest to regain fertility, just as people do. This wisdom helps Velu shift his perspective from anger and agitation to understanding and hope regarding the drought.

47. How did Velu's land support him in the past?

Ans. : Velu's land supported him by allowing him to cultivate crops like jowar and dhal, which provided for his livelihood.

48. Why did Velu disagree with the idea of consulting astrologers?

Ans. : Velu disagreed because he believed that consulting astrologers had never been helpful and that such meetings would not cause rain to fall.

49. How did Velu feel at the end of the story?

Ans. : Velu felt relieved, happy, and laughing at the end of the story when the rains finally came.

*** Answer the following questions.**

[6]

50. How did the old woman help Velu understand Nature?

Ans. : The elderly woman clarified that, like people, the land requires rest. When there was no rain, she reminded Velu that the soil had been productive for ages and should be given time to heal. She compared Nature to a mother who cares for all of her children, including humans, soil, trees, and water. Velu found solace in her comments, which gave him a fresh perspective on the drought. Maybe the ground was resting to become productive again, Velu thought.

51. What message does the story "Waiting for the Rain" convey?

Ans. : The moral of the story is to respect the environment, have patience, and have faith in nature. It demonstrates that farmers must realize that the ground requires rest in order to remain fertile, even during trying times. The narrative emphasizes the close bond between people and the natural world by presenting Nature as a mother who is aware of what is best for her children. Additionally, it highlights hope-after waiting for a while, the showers finally arrive.

*** Read the following prose extract carefully and answer the questions given**

[20]

below:

"...I can't see how talking to astrologers will bring rain." He decided to go to the weather office in the city and talk to someone. But the people at the weather office said they couldn't really tell him when the sky would gather clouds and bring rain. "We are at a loss ourselves!" they exclaimed. "So many favourable conditions but still no rain. Very odd!"

52. What does the first line of the extract tell us about Velu's beliefs?

53. Complete the following sentence with a suitable reason.

Velu is determined to seek information about the rain because _____. (he was at a loss of words/he wants to find a practical solution to the drought affecting his farm)

54. Complete the table with reference to Velu's weather office visit.

Expectation (What I think will happen)	Outcome (What actually happened)

55. Complete the following sentence with a suitable option.

The absence of rain despite favourable conditions, shows _____.

- (A) lack of astrological knowledge
- (B) ineffectiveness of farmers like Velu
- (C) delay in understanding the weather
- (D) unpredictability of nature

Ans. : 1. The first line of the extract tells us that **instead of depending on astrology or superstitions, Velu favors realistic, scientific methods.**

2. Velu is determined to seek information about the rain because **he wants to find a practical solution to the drought affecting his farm.**

3.

Expectation (What I think will happen)	Outcome (What actually happened)
Velu expected the weather office to give him clear information about when it would rain.	The weather officers could not predict the exact time of rain and admitted that they were also unsure.

4. (D) unpredictability of nature.

"The soil, the land, the earth... shouldn't someone let the land rest a bit?" the old woman said, softly, smiling. "Rest? Let the land rest? I don't understand," Velu looked at her, a little puzzled. "Yes, my son, that is the difficulty. You don't realise that the earth is old..."

56. The old woman's advice was accompanied with a soft tone and a smile. What does that tell us about her?

57. Fill in the blank with the correct option from those given below.

The old woman's advice _____ Velu, at that moment.

- (A) failed to impress
- (B) confused
- (C) scared
- (D) made sense to

58. State one thing about the old woman when she referred to Velu as 'my son', while offering advice.

59. Complete the following sentence with a suitable explanation.

The 'difficulty' that the old woman mentions is due to the fact that _____.

Ans. : 1. The old woman's advice was accompanied with a soft tone and a smile. This demonstrates that rather than being severe or judgmental in her guidance of Velu, she was intelligent, compassionate, and gentle in her approach.

2. (B) confused

3. When the old woman referred to Velu as 'my son', it showed her affectionate, maternal, and nurturing attitude for him.

4. The 'difficulty' that the old woman mentions is due to the fact that farmers like

Velu are unaware that, like people, the soil requires relaxation after years of hard work.

Rain or no rain, a farmer wakes up early. Velu worked hard. His piece of land never failed him. Season after season he cultivated it, harvesting jowar one season and dhal the next. Throughout the year he worked, never thinking of rest or taking a holiday. For nearly six years it had been so, ever since he had got his own piece of land.

60. What was Velu's attitude towards work and rest?
61. Did Velu's land ever fail to produce a crop?
62. Velu only cultivated jowar every season. (True/False)
63. Find a word from the passage which means 'cutting and collecting crops'.

- Ans. :** 1. Velu worked throughout the year without rest.
2. No, Velu's land never failed to produce a crop.
3. False
4. Cultivated

He decided to go to the weather office in the city and talk to someone. But the people at the weather office said they couldn't really tell him when the sky would gather clouds and bring rain. "We are at a loss ourselves!" they exclaimed. "So many favourable conditions but still no rain. Very odd!"

Velu, too, was at a loss. He walked back to the village, tired, and dejected. He was thirsty and the dust made him cough and sneeze. He decided to rest for a while.

64. How did Velu feel on his way back to the village?
65. What did Velu decide to do after returning to the village?
66. The Weather office staff were confident about the rain's arrival. (True/False)
67. Find a word from the passage which means : 'Strange, unusual'.

- Ans. :** 1. Velu felt tired, dejected, and thirsty on his way back to the village.
2. After returning to the village velu decided to rest for a while.
3. False
4. Odd

"But my son, that is what I am talking about. You have strength now. You can work without a break. But have you thought about the land? The earth works, too, when you plough, and sow, and plant. The earth has worked for years, centuries, in fact, thousands of years. The soil, the land, the earth... shouldn't someone let the land rest a bit?" the old woman said, softly, smiling.

68. How did the old woman describe the earth's years of work?
69. How did the old woman speak to Velu?
70. The old woman thought Velu was weak. (True/False)
71. Find a word from the passage which means 'to turn over soil with a plough'.

- Ans. :** 1. She said the earth has worked for years, centuries, and thousands of years.
2. The old woman spoke softly and smiling to Velu.



- 3. False
- 4. Plough

