

## Unit - 2


### A Nice Cup of Tea

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#### Warm Up

##### Question (a)

Here are a few varieties of tea. How many of these have you tasted? Tick the boxes.

	Herbal Tea	Ice Tea	Lemon Tea
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Green Tea	Black Tea	Tea with Milk
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Answer:

	Herbal Tea	Ice Tea	Lemon Tea
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Green Tea	Black Tea	Tea with Milk
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

##### Question (b)

You would have seen lovely packets of tea on the shelves in supermarkets and shops. Have you ever wondered how tea powder is obtained from the plants? Look at the pictures and describe the process.





**Answer:**

- The selected young Leaves are Plucked manually. Nowadays machines are available
- It is then left for drying.
- The dried leaves are then powdered and packed.

**1. Based on your understanding of the text, Answer each of the following Questions in one or two sentences.**

**Question (a)**

What seems 'curious' to the author?

**Answer:**

The argument which arises for the best way of making tea seems curious to the author.

**Question (b)**

Why does the author say that it is important to include a tea recipe in cookery books?

**Answer:**

It is important to include tea in the cookery book because tea is one of the mainstays of civilisation in England, Eire, Australia and New Zealand. Besides, the nicest manner of making tea is a subject of violent disputes among tea-loving nations.

**Question (c)**

Mention the countries in which tea is a part of civilization.

**Answer:**

Britain, Eire, Australia, and Newzealand are the countries in which tea is a part of civilization.

**Question (d)**

Which tea does the author prefer-China tea or Indian tea?

**Answer:**

The author prefers Indian tea to Chinese tea.

**Question (e)**

According to the author, what does the phrase 'a nice cup of tea' refer to?

**Answer:**

The phrase "a nice cup of tea" refers to Indian tea.

**Question (f)**

What is the second golden rule in the preparation of tea?

**Answer:**

Second golden rule is that tea should be made in small quantities (i.e.) in a teapot.

**Question (g)**

How does army tea taste?

**Answer:**

Army tea tastes of grease and whitewash.

**Question (h)**

Do tea lovers generally like strong tea or weak tea?

**Answer:**

Tea lovers generally love strong tea.

**Question (i)**

Why should tea be directly added to the pot?

**Answer:**

Tea should be directly added to the pot so that it infuses properly.

**Question (j)**

Why does the author prefer the cylindrical cup to a flat cup?

**Answer:**

Cylindrical cups (i.e.) breakfast cup holds more tea. But in the shallow and flat cup, tea turns half cold before one starts drinking it.

**Question (k)**

What should be poured into the cup first-tea or milk?

**Answer:**

Tea should be poured into the cup first.

**Question (l)**

Why does the author advise removing cream from the milk?

**Answer:**

Cream should be removed before adding the milk to tea because creamy milk gives a sickly taste to tea.

**Question (m)**

Does the author like drinking tea with sugar? Give reasons.

**Answer:**

The author does not like drinking tea with sugar as it destroys the flavour of the tea. If sugar is added to tea it means that one is just tasting the sugar and not the tea.

**Question (n)**

Why does the author refer to himself as being in 'a minority'?

**Answer:**

The author takes tea without sugar to relish the real taste of tea. But majority of people take it with sugar. So, the author refers to himself as a minority.

**Question (o)**

Whom does the author call 'misguided people'? What is his advice to them?

**Answer:**

Misguided people are those who needed sugar to take away the taste of the tea. The author advises them to drink tea without sugar for a fortnight so that they will never add sugar to it again.

## **Additional Questions**

**Question (a)**

What does the author find in his own recipe for the perfect cup of tea?

**Answer:**

The author finds eleven outstanding points in his own recipe for the perfect cup of tea.

**Question (b)**

How does the author value tea out of an urn?

**Answer:**

According to the author, Tea out of an urn is always tasteless.

**Question (c)**

What is the 'third golden rule'?

**Answer:**

The pot should be warmed beforehand.

**Question (d)**

What is the author's opinion about strainers or filters in the preparation of tea?

**Answer:**

Tea should be put straight into the pot. No strainer muslin bags or other devices must be used to imprison the tea.

**Question (e)**

What is seventh golden rule?

**Answer:**

After making tea, one should stir it or better give the pot a good shake. Afterwards, the tea leaves may be allowed to settle down.

**Question (f)**

What is cited as a mysterious social etiquette surrounding the tea pot?

**Answer:**

It is considered vulgar to drink tea out of your saucer.

**Question (g)**

What are the subsidiary uses of tea leaves?

**Answer:**

Telling fortunes, predicting the arrival of visitors, feeding rabbits, healing bums and sweeping the carpet are some of the subsidiary uses of tea leaves.

## **2. Based on your understanding of the text, Answer each of the following Questions in four or five sentences.**

**Question (a)**

What are the author's views on China tea?

**Answer:**

China tea has many good qualities. It is economical and can be drunk without milk. It lacks behind in excitement. One may not feel wiser, braver, or optimistic after drinking it.

**Question (b)**

How does adding sugar affect the taste of tea?

**Answer:**

The author raises a pertinent **Question**, "How can you call yourself a true tea-lover if you destroy the flavour of your tea by putting sugar in it?" He mocks such people that they could add even salt and pepper in tea. Adding sugar to hot water would give them an equal drink. So, the author disapproves of adding sugar to tea to retain its flavour and taste.

**Question (c)**

Elucidate the author's ideas about teapots.

**Answer:**

According to the author the tea made in out of an urn is tasteless on the other hand tea made in cauldron tastes of grease and whitewash. Silver or Britannia ware teapots produce inferior tea, enamel pots are worse and the pewter teapot is considerable. The best teapot is the one which is made of China or earthenware.

## **Additional Questions**

**Question (a)**

How does A.G. Gardiner explode the myth about the harmfulness of tea leaves?

**Answer:**

In some countries, teapots are fitted with little dangling baskets under the spout to catch the stray leaves which are supposed to be harmful. The author asserts that one can swallow tea-leaves in considerable quantities without ill-effect. He claims that if the tea is not loose in the pot it never infuses properly with the hot beverage (i.e.) tea.

**Question (b)**

what are the two schools of thought in tea making which fight against one another in England? Why?

**Answer:**

In every family in England, two schools of thoughts persist on tea making. One group insists that milk should be poured first and tea should be added to it. But the author seconds the second school which claims tea must be powered first and milk must be added later because one could easily regulate the amount of milk to taste.

**3. Answer each of the following Questions in a paragraph of 100-150 words.**

**Question (a)**

Summarise George Orwell's distinctive ideas in "A Nice Cup of Tea".

**Answer:**

Tea is one of the mainstays of civilizations of UK, New Zealand, Australia and Eire. But, it is not found in the recipes of cookery books. The nicest manner in which tea must be prepared has become a subject matter of violent disputes among tea loving persons even within a family. Indian tea fits in with the author's description of "nicest cup of tea" as it rejuvenates the drinker with wisdom, stimulation, bravery and optimism. One cup of strong tea is equal to twenty weak ones. Best tea is prepared by boiling tea leaves first and then adding milk to taste.

Milk first schools and tea first schools still fight. Tea prepared in earthen pot or china ware is good. The real flavour of tea should never be imprisoned by strainers. Consuming tea leaves will not harm one's health. Adding sugar to tea will naturally ruin its real flavour and taste. The author advises misguided people who drink sweet tea to desist from the practice for a fortnight. He guarantees them that they would like the natural taste of tea and would never again add sugar to tea. Tea should be taken in a cylindrical or breakfast cup to enjoy it. Shallow and flat cups don't retain warmth and taste for a long time.

**Question (b)**

Discuss how the essay reveals the factual points and the author's personal opinions on the preparation of tea.

**Answer:**

Facts found in the essay: There is no mention of tea in the recipes cookery books except

some sketchy ideas on the process of preparation. Tea is one of the mainstays of civilization of UK, Australia, New Zealand and Eire. The process of tea making is a subject matter of violent disputes. The author has come up with eleven golden rules for preparation of a nice tea. Tea pot should be made of china or earthenware. In some countries, teapots are fitted with little dangling baskets under the spout to catch stray tea leaves, which are supposed to be harmful. One should use water that has been freshly boiled. After making tea, one should stir it or better give the pot a good shake, afterwards allowing the leaves to settle down. Some people don't like tea in itself. They only drink it in order to be warmed and stimulated and they need sugar to take away the taste of tea.

The author's opinion: The manner of making the nicest cup of tea is the subject matter of violent disputes. China tea doesn't give stimulation, wisdom, bravery or optimism. Indian tea means 'a nice cup of tea'. The army tea tastes of grease and whitewash. The method of swilling tea out with hot water is not a good practice. One strong cup of tea is better than twenty weak ones. One can swallow considerable quantities of tea. One should take the teapot to the kettle and not the other way about. If you use already boiled water or freshly brought to boil does not make any difference in the taste of tea. One should remove cream off before adding the milk to tea. By putting tea leaves in first and stirring it as one pours milk one can regulate the amount of milk. Tea must be drunk without sugar for enjoying the real flavour and taste.

#### **Question (c)**

What are the aspects that contribute to humour in the essay?

#### **Answer:**

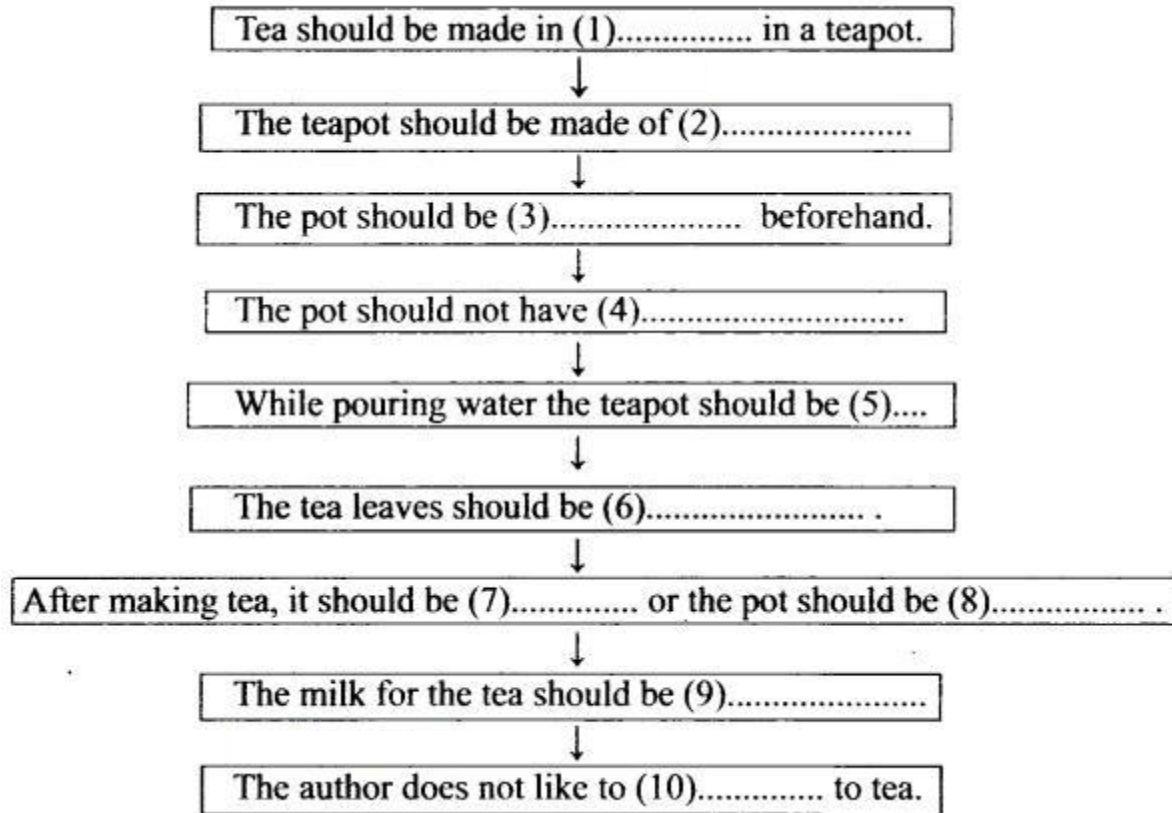
The author claims the best manner of making tea is the subject matter of violent disputes. He compliments china tea for being economical but also says one does not feel rejuvenated after drinking it. One doesn't feel braver, wiser, more optimistic or stimulated after drinking the Chinese tea. He says army tea tastes of grease and white wash. In Britain there are two schools of thought (i.e.) milk first school and tea first school (i.e.) one school claiming that milk must be poured first and tea added later and another school claiming that tea must be poured first and milk to be added next.

He says those who take tea with sugar for its sweetness alone as misguided people. He says that they could very well add salt and pepper to tea and drink it. He claims that there are some mysterious social etiquette surrounding teapot. It is vulgar to drink tea out of one's saucer. There are some subsidiary uses of tea leaves such as telling fortunes, predicting the arrival of visitors, feeding rabbits, healing bums and sweeping the carpet.

#### **4. Based on your understanding of the text, complete the chart given below by choosing the appropriate words or phrases given in brackets.**

(add sugar, shaken, milk, infused properly, strainers, without cream, taken to the kettle, small quantities, China or earthenware, stirred, warmed)





### Answers

1. small quantities
2. China or earthenware,
3. warmed
4. strainers
5. taken to the kettle
6. infused properly
7. stirred
8. shaken
9. without cream
10. add sugar

### Vocabulary

(a) Find out the synonym of the underlined word in each of the following sentences.



**Question 1.**

But because the best manner of making it is the subject of violent disputes.

- (a) agreements
- (b) applauses
- (c) conflicts
- (d) discussions

**Answer:**

- (c) conflicts

**Question 2.**

\_\_\_\_\_ tea is one of the mainstays of civilization in the country.

- (a) a society in an advanced state of social development
- (b) a society that has slow progress
- (c) a society that has no progress
- (d) a society in an average state of social development

**Answer:**

- (a) a society in an advanced state of social development

**Question 3**

\_\_\_\_\_ that they only drink it in order to be warmed and stimulated.

- (a) motivated
- (b) discouraged
- (c) passive
- (d) admired

**Answer:**

- (a) motivated

**Question 4**

\_\_\_\_\_ under the spout to catch the stray leaves.

- (a) fresh
- (b) loose
- (c) gathered
- (d) harmful

**Answer:**

- (b) loose

**Question 5.**

One is liable to put in too much milk.

- (a) likely
- (b) certain
- (c) eager
- (d) responsible

**Answer:**

- (d) responsible

## Additional

### Question 1.

At least four others are controversial.

- (a) harmonious
- (b) disputable
- (c) agreeable
- (d) comprehensive

**Answer:**

- (b) disputable

### Question 2.

One does not feel more optimistic after drinking it.

- (a) dejected
- (b) despaired
- (c) positive
- (d) disdainful

**Answer:**

- (c) positive

### Question 3.

China tea has virtues.

- (a) vices
- (b) admirable qualities
- (c) despicable traits
- (d) alarming wickedness

**Answer:**

- (b) admirable qualities

### Question 4.

They are not to be despised.

- (a) loved
- (b) yearned
- (c) hated
- (d) doted

**Answer:**

- (c) hated

### Question 5.

Army tea is made in cauldron.

- (a) stove
- (b) mini cooker
- (c) boiler
- (d) cup

**Answer:**

(c) boiler

**Question 6.**

It is not to be done with the usual method of swilling it with hot water.

- (a) rinsing
- (b) drenching
- (c) chirping
- (d) cutting

**Answer:**

(a) rinsing

**Question 7.**

In a time of rationing, this is not an idea.

- (a) liberal supply
- (b) confiscating
- (c) blocking
- (d) restricting supply

**Answer:**

(d) restricting supply

**Question 8.**

In some countries, teapots are fitted with little dangling baskets.

- (a) dancing freely
- (b) hanging freely
- (c) severed
- (d) tied tightly

**Answer:**

(b) hanging freely

**Question 9.**

No, strainers, muslin bags, or other devices to imprison the tea.

- (a) discharge
- (b) release
- (c) acquit
- (d) detain

**Answer:**

(d) detain

**Question 10.**

One should stir it well.

- (a) mix thoroughly
- (b) drain fully
- (c) soak completely
- (d) dried fully

**Answer:**

- (a) mix thoroughly

**Question 11.**

You can prepare a very similar drink.

- (a) unidentical
- (b) almost the same
- (c) unique
- (d) distinct

**Answer:**

- (b) almost the same

**Question 12.**

You could make a drink by dissolving sugar in hot water.

- (a) segregating
- (b) filter
- (c) strain
- (d) making a solution

**Answer:**

- (d) making a solution

**Question 13.**

A shallow type cup doesn't hold much.

- (a) deep
- (b) profound
- (c) cylindrical
- (d) of little depth

**Answer:**

- (d) of little depth

**Question 14.**

Milk that is too creamy always gives the tea a sickly taste.

- (a) rich
- (b) flavoured
- (c) unpleasant
- (d) unhealthy

**Answer:**

- (c) unpleasant

**Question 15.**

There is also a mysterious social etiquette.

- (a) clear
- (b) comprehensible
- (c) lucid

(d) incompressible

**Answer:**

(d) incompressible

**Question 16.**

A social etiquette surrounds the teapot.

(a) evils

(b) goods and services

(c) vices

(d) socially accepted behaviour

**Answer:**

(d) socially accepted behaviour

**Question 17.**

There is some subsidiary.

(a) major

(b) crucial

(c) vital

(d) supplementary

**Answer:**

(d) supplementary

**Question 18.**

Such as telling fortune...

(a) evil

(b) wisdom

(c) luck

(d) omen

**Answer:**

(c) luck

**Question 19.**

predicting the arrival of visitors.

(a) cautioning

(b) addressing

(c) foretelling

(d) doubting

**Answer:**

(c) foretelling

**Question 20.**

Be quite sure of wringing out of one's ration the twenty good, strong cups of tea.

(a) smothering

(b) squeezing out

(c) making out

(d) breathing out

**Answer:**

(b) squeezing out

**(b) Find out the antonym of the underlined word in each of the following sentences.**

**Question 1.**

which are not to be despised.

- (a) hated
- (b) liked
- (c) respected
- (d) defeated

**Answer:**

(b) liked

**Question 2.**

One does not feel wise, braver, or more optimistic.

- (a) opportunistic
- (b) cheerful
- (c) realistic
- (d) pessimistic

**Answer:**

(d) pessimistic

**Question 3.**

Not the flat, shallow type...

- (a) narrow
- (b) wide
- (c) deep
- (d) direct

**Answer:**

(c) deep

**Question 4.**

Predicting the arrival of visitors...

- (a) journey
- (b) departure
- (c) migration
- (d) perusal

**Answer:**

(b) departure

**Question 5.**

but they are sufficient to show how subtilized the whole business has become,

- (a) enough

- (b) suffocative
- (c) inadequate
- (d) submissive

**Answer:**

- (c) inadequate

## Additional

### Question 1.

They give no ruling on several of the most important points.

- (a) many
- (b) plentiful
- (c) a few
- (d) a large number of

**Answer:**

- (c) a few

### Question 2.

It is a subject of violent disputes.

- (a) brutal
- (b) reckless
- (c) vicious
- (d) gentle

**Answer:**

- (d) gentle

### Question 3.

China tea has virtues.

- (a) attributes
- (b) vices
- (c) injuries
- (d) problems

**Answer:**

- (b) vices

### Question 4.

It is economical.

- (a) frugal
- (b) expensive
- (c) mean
- (d) niggardly

**Answer:**

- (b) expensive

### Question 5.



One can swallow considerable quantities without ill-effects.

- (a) large
- (b) significant
- (c) sizeable
- (d) paltry

**Answer:**

- (d) paltry

**Question 6.**

I find no fewer than eleven outstanding points.

- (a) exceptional
- (b) excellent
- (c) exclusive
- (d) mediocre

**Answer:**

- (d) mediocre

**Question 7.**

At least four others are acutely controversial.

- (a) disagreeable
- (b) contentious
- (c) agreeable
- (d) disputable

**Answer:**

- (c) agreeable

**Question 8.**

You will probably find that it is unmentioned.

- (a) improbably
- (b) apparently
- (c) plausibly
- (d) tied perhaps

**Answer:**

- (a) improbably

**Question 9.**

Britannia teapots produce inferior tea.

- (a) junior
- (b) superior
- (c) senior
- (d) circular

**Answer:**

- (b) superior

**Question 10.**

If the tea is not loose in the pot, it never infuses properly.

- (a) pervades
- (b) permeates
- (c) imbues
- (d) drains

**Answer:**

- (d) drains

**Question 11.**

Stray leaves are supposed to be harmful.

- (a) hurtful
- (b) damaging
- (c) evil
- (d) harmless/safe

**Answer:**

- (d) harmless/safe

**Question 12.**

I am in a minority.

- (a) popularity
- (b) scarcity
- (c) paucity
- (d) majority

**Answer:**

- (d) majority

**Question 13.**

One can exactly regulate the amount of milk.

- (a) correctly
- (b) inaccurately
- (c) precisely
- (d) fully

**Answer:**

- (b) inaccurately

**Question 14.**

Some drink it only to be stimulated.

- (a) motivated
- (b) encouraged
- (c) discouraged
- (d) rejuvenated

**Answer:**

- (c) discouraged

**Question 15.**

The milk-first school can bring forward some fairly strong arguments.

- (a) progressive
- (b) leeward
- (c) backward
- (d) onward

**Answer:**

- (c) backward

**(c) Fill in the boxes with the correct Answers. The first one has been done for you.**

Sl. No.	Word with meaning and part of speech	Sentence	Noun/Verb/ Adj. form	Sentence
1	Word: wise meaning: clever part of speech: adjective	My brother is wise.	wisdom	My brother showed great wisdom in business.
2	harm			
3	stimulate			
4	argue			
5	strong			
6	destroy			

**Answer:**

Sl. No.	Word with meaning and part of speech	Sentence	Noun/Verb/ Adj. form	Sentence
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1	Word: wise meaning: clever part of speech: adjective	My brother is wise.	wisdom	My brother showed great <u>wisdom</u> in business.
2	harm	Too much sugar can <u>harm</u> one's health in the longer run.	harm	The hon'ble prime minister vowed that the <u>harm</u> (n) done to the fibre of democracy through the Pulwama attack will not go unpunished.
3	stimulate	Tea <u>stimulates</u> (v) one's brain.	stimulate	Population explosion is a major <u>stimulant</u> (n) to the industrial development in China.
4	argue	My brother is an <u>argumentative</u> (adj), scholar.	argue	You may win an <u>argument</u> (n) but lose a friend
5	strong	Loyal and patriotic citizens alone make a country <u>strong</u> (adj)	strong	The <u>strength</u> (n) of Mary Kom amazed fellow boxers.

6	destroy	Prolonged conflict at the border could be <u>destructive</u> (adj) for both sides.	destroy	Pakistan continues to downplay the <u>destruction</u> (n) caused by India's preemptive attack on the Balakot camp.
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## Listening Activity

Listen to the passage about the 'Significance of Tea' and Answer the Questions.

### The Significance of Tea

Tea has been an important beverage for thousands of years. It is consumed by two-thirds of the world's population. India is the second-largest tea producer in the world after China, although over 70 percent of its tea is consumed within India. Tea has been proved to offer numerous health benefits. Scientists and researchers have found that drinking tea could reduce the risk of heart diseases. The antioxidants in tea might prevent cancer.

Regular tea drinking might help one in lowering blood sugar and blood pressure. Tea might be an effective agent in the prevention and treatment of neurological disorders. The consumption of tea results in the strengthening of one's teeth, bones, and immune system. However, drinking too much tea may prove to be harmful to one's health. So, drinking tea moderately could make one healthier. Researchers have confirmed the significant overall health benefits of drinking tea.

**Questions:**

**Question 1.**

Which country is the largest tea producer in the world?

**Answer:**

China is the largest producer of tea in the world.

**Question 2.**

\_\_\_\_\_ percent of the tea produced in India is exported.

**Answer:**

30

**Question 3.**

What is the role of antioxidants in tea?

**Answer:**

The antioxidants in tea might prevent cancer.

**Question 4.**

Drinking tea strengthens one's \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_

**Answer:**

teeth, bones, immune system

**Question 5.**

How does drinking tea help a diabetic?

**Answer:**

Regular tea drinking lowers blood sugar and thus helps a diabetic.

## **Speaking Activity**

### **Read the story silently.**

Once upon a time, a daughter complained to her father that her life was miserable and that she didn't know how she was going to make it. She was tired of fighting and struggling all the ( time. It seemed that just as one problem was solved, another one soon followed. Her father, a chef, took her to the kitchen. He filled three pots with water and placed each on high flame. Once the three pots began to boil, he placed potatoes in one pot, eggs in the second pot, and .ground coffee beans in the third pot. He then let them boil, without saying a word to his daughter. The daughter moaned and impatiently waited, wondering what he was doing.'

After twenty minutes he turned off the burners. He took the potatoes out of the pot and placed them in a bowl. He pulled the boiled eggs out and placed them in a bowl. He then ladled the coffee out and poured it in a cup. Turning to her he asked. "Daughter, what do you see?"

"Potatoes, eggs, and coffee," she hastily replied, "Look closer," he said, "and touch the potatoes." She did and noted that they were soft. He then asked her to take an egg and break it. After peeling off the shell, she observed the hard-boiled egg.

Finally, he asked her to sip the coffee. Its rich aroma brought a smile to her face. "Father, what does this mean?" she asked. He then explained that the potatoes, the eggs, and coffee beans had each faced the same adversity – the boiling water. However, each one reacted differently. The potato was strong, hard, and unrelenting, but in boiling water, it became soft and weak. The egg was fragile, with the thin outer shell protecting its liquid interior

until it was put in the boiling water. Then the inside of the eggs became hard. However, the ground coffee beans were unique.

After they were exposed to the boiling water, they changed the water and created something new. "Which are you?" he asked his daughter. "When adversity knocks on your door, how do you respond? Are you a potato, an egg, or a coffee bean? Things happen around us, things happen to us, but the only thing that truly matters is what happens within us. Which one are you?"

This story shows how people react to different situations in life. Some become weak and soft like the potatoes and some others harden like the egg. The best way to face difficulties is illustrated by the coffee beans which change their colour and add flavour.

**Now use these ideas and prepare a speech on the topic 'The importance of developing a positive attitude' and deliver the speech in the school assembly.**



The importance of developing a positive attitude:

Respected Chief Guest, dignitaries on the Dias, teachers, and my dear friends. I would like to say a few words on the importance of developing a positive attitude.

A positive attitude is necessary to succeed in life. A person with a positive attitude has self-confidence and empathy. To highlight this I would like to quote some incidents in the life of Amelia Earhart, the first woman pilot. She watched a pilot taking off in his small plane. On the runway, he wanted to scare her, he drove the small plane very close to her, she didn't panic or run away. The plane which whizzed past her seemed to invite her. She worked at various jobs such as a photographer, truck driver, and stenographer.

She managed to save 1000 dollars for her flying lessons. In order to reach the air-field, Amelia had to take a bus to the end of the line and walk 6 km. Earhart's commitment to flying required her to accept frequent hardwork. After proving her professional skills as a lady pilot, she popularized flying and encouraged many girls to take pilot training. She proved that women can also shine in the field which was till then dominated by men.

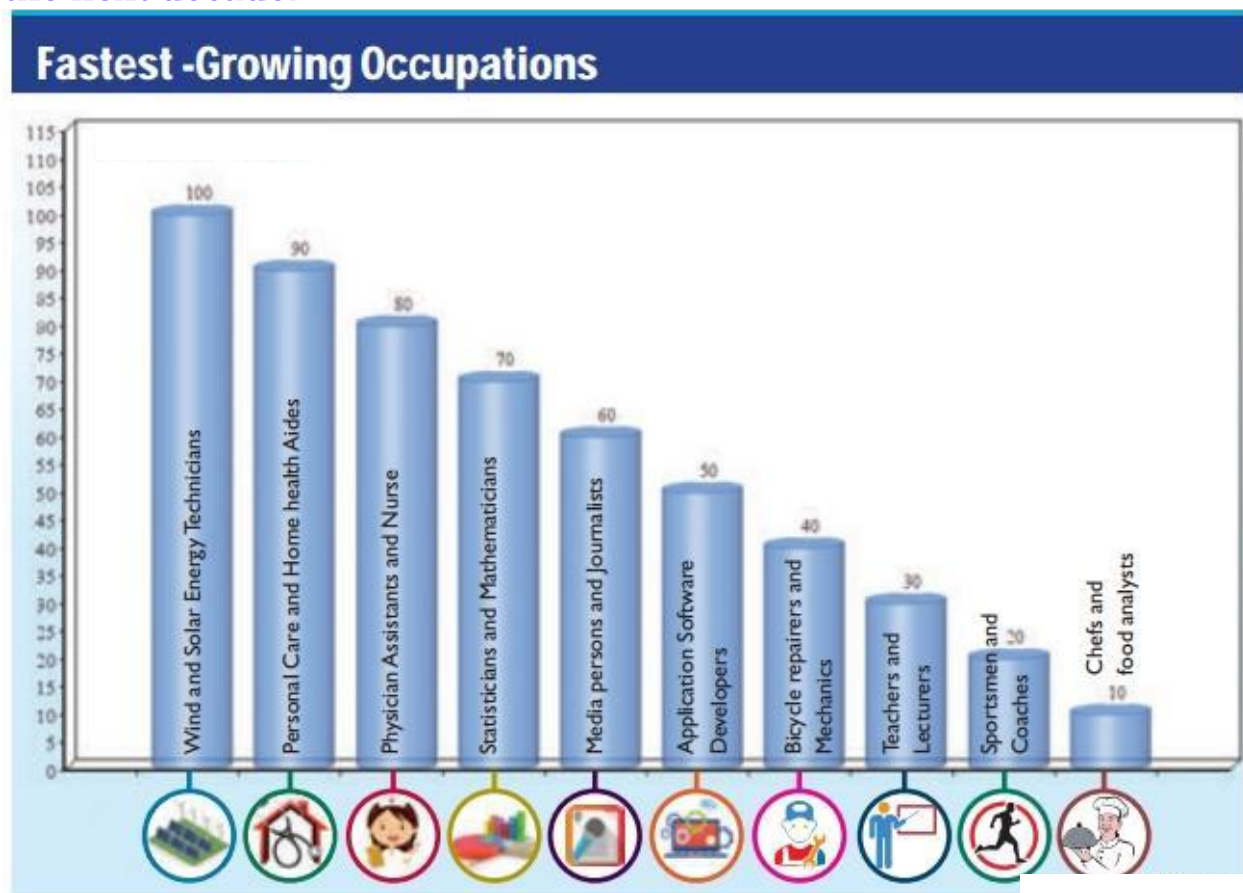


The next best example is the positive attitude of Abinandan, the pilot whose parachute drifted into Pakistan and was taken a prisoner. Even while in the custody of the Pak military, he did not lose his confidence. He conducted himself bravely. He did not fear, he believed in himself and in his country. He is back home as a living legend spreading the message that a positive attitude can help one overcome any obstacle in life.

## Reading

### Non-verbal Representations.

Look at the following non-verbal representation. Based on your understanding and inference, write a paragraph on career trends in the next decade.



Fastest growing occupations:

It is true that most of us were not aware of the current demands in the job market 10 years ago. As the emerging jobs and the required skill sets change all the professional qualifications become irrelevant. In addition to the basic degree, it is necessary to foresee the emerging trends in the job market. This paragraph shows that the topmost opportunity to grow is in the field of wind and solar energy. Technicians are needed in this sector. There

is a 100% chance of placement for those who qualify themselves in operating windmills, designing, installing, and maintenance of solar panels. The paramedical profession is likely to grow exponentially.

It means that those who pursue nursing, lab technician courses would get placed soon. Strikingly, Mathematicians and Statisticians will be next in huge demand as 70% growth is for them only. As there is a boom in media services, T.V., radio, newspapers, and periodicals, there is a rising demand for media persons and journalists. Against the common belief, only 50% growth opportunity is there for professionals qualified in software development. It is heartening to note that cycle repairers and two-wheeler mechanics will get opportunities next to software engineers. Though lakhs of graduates do B.Ed. course the growth opportunity in teaching jobs in colleges and schools is only 30%. The dismal picture for sportsmen and coaches is discouraging. Only 20% of growth is predicted in placements for coaches and sportsmen. Finally, only 10% of growth is possible for those who specialise in food analysis and working in hotels.

## Task

**Now read the following article on the emerging career options in the modern era and Answer the Questions that follow.**

The students at the higher secondary level in schools start thinking of suitable courses to take up at the university level based on their aptitude, ability, and interests. While considering the higher education options, they should also plan the career path they wish to take. In today's complex job scenario, there is a mismatch between demand and supply on one hand we have qualified professionals desperately trying to find a job, while on the other hand, there are many professions that need suitable talented employees. But such skilled employees are unavailable. Therefore, the need of the hour is that students have an understanding of the emerging career options.

Schools should take the initiative to organise career guidance and counselling sessions for students. However, students need to remember that to build a strong career, they must understand the perspective field and their primary interest. It is also important for students to focus on overall personality development and hone their communication skills as these are important for the success of their career. Students are also advised that in order to build a solid career foundation, they need to qualify suitably by pursuing a degree course in the chosen area of interest and also consider post-graduate education. Diploma/Short-term courses may help one find a job in the short run but may not promise career progression. Rapid advancement in science and technology and globalisation have widened the scope of career options in the twenty-first century. Let us consider some popular careers.

**Fashion Designing:**

The current cosmopolitan and fashion-conscious wave that has taken over our country has

.opened up a huge arena for careers in fashion. These careers encompass designing clothes, costumes, jewellery, footwear, wardrobe, costumes, accessories, and the like.

#### **Culinary Arts:**

With food and cookery shows being a major trend across the world, culinary arts, a sub-domain of the hospitality sector, has now become the most sought after career.

#### **Paramedical sciences:**

In recent times, there has been a great demand in the health care industry. Paramedical professionals who support medical practitioners in areas such as optometry, pathology, nursing, physiotherapy, and dentistry are much sought after.

#### **Media, Journalism, and Advertising:**

In this information era, print and entertainment media have become a force to reckon with. This arena has become a huge career playground because youngsters are attracted to it as the exposure and reach is greater through such mass media. We notice that radio and TV channels, internet companies, and advertising agencies are increasingly recruiting qualified professionals.

#### **Hotel Management:**

The hotel industry is the fastest growing industry in India. The number of international travellers (both for business and leisure) is increasing. The hospitality and service industry offers career options such as housekeeping, front-desk executives, tourism management, etc.

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#### **Sports Management:**

With multinational companies supporting sports, careers in sports offer enormous scope. One need not be a player or an athlete to shine in a sports career because the field of sports offers various career options such as technical trainers, commentators, sports journalists, dieticians, referees, etc. Conducting sports events successfully, organizing the event laudably, preparing the ground for the event are all part of sports management.

#### **Questions:**

##### **Question (a)**

When do students start thinking about their career path?

##### **Answer:**

At the end of plus two exams, students start thinking about their career path.

##### **Question (b)**

How can students build a strong career?

##### **Answer:**

To build a strong career, students must understand the prospective field and their primary interests. They need to qualify suitably by pursuing a degree course in their chosen area of interest.

**Question (c)**

What are the integral aspects of a successful career?

**Answer:**

Personality development, communicative competence, required skill sets, keeping abreast of technological advancements in addition to qualification in the respective field are the integral aspects of a successful career.

**Question (d)**

What is meant by 'culinary art'?

**Answer:**

Cooking is called culinary art.

**Question (e)**

Why is media a popular career option?

**Answer:**

Media is a popular career option because print and entertainment media have become a force to reckon with. Radio, TV channels, internet companies, and advertisement companies are increasingly recruiting qualified professionals.

**Question (f)**

Name some paramedical courses mentioned in the passage.

**Answer:**

Optometry, pathology, nursing, physiotherapy, and dentistry are some popular paramedical courses.

**Question (g)**

Why is the hotel industry seen as the fastest growing in India?

**Answer:**

The number of international travellers visiting India is rapidly growing. This has resulted in the exponential growth of the hospitality and service industry. A lot of career options such as housekeeping, front-desk executives, tourism management, etc. are now open.

**Question (h)**

Does one have to be a player to opt for a career in the field of sports? answer giving reasons.

**Answer:**

No. Sports journalists, dieticians, technical trainers, and commentators need not be sportspersons.

**Question (i)**

Pick one word from the passage which is the opposite of 'modern'.

**Answer:**

Traditional

**Question (j)**

Which word in the passage means 'composed of people from many parts of the country'?

**Answer:**

International travellers

## Grammar

### Prepositions

#### Task 1

**Recall your learning of basic prepositions and complete the sentences using the prepositions given in brackets.**

over	under	on	between
among	into	with	since
in front of		near/beside	

1. The boy jumped \_\_\_\_ a narrow stream.
2. Afsar will meet me \_\_\_\_ Friday morning.
3. The temple is \_\_\_\_ the bank.
4. My friend will meet me \_\_\_\_ his brother tomorrow.
5. There is usually a garden \_\_\_\_ a bungalow.
6. Yuvan has been studying well \_\_\_\_ childhood.
7. A trekker climbed \_\_\_\_ a mountain meticulously.
8. There was a skirmish \_\_\_\_ my brother and sister.
9. The laudable thoughts were apparent \_\_\_\_ many scholars in a conference.
10. It is easy to work \_\_\_\_ the aegis of a visionary leader.

**Answers:**

1. into
2. on
3. near/beside
4. with
5. in front of

6. since
7. over
8. between
9. among
10. under

## Task 2

**Complete the following passages using the prepositions given in brackets.**

(among, for, at, to, in,)

**Question (i)**

\_\_\_\_\_ When Lakshmi was (1) \_\_\_\_\_ school, she practised music from Monday (2) \_\_\_\_\_ Friday. She involved herself (3) \_\_\_\_\_ the school orchestra. She was responsible (4) \_\_\_\_\_ conducting many programmes. She was very popular (5) \_\_\_\_\_ her schoolmates, as she was kind, friendly and helpful.

**Answers:**

1. at
2. to
3. in
4. for
5. among

**Question (ii)**

(after, with, on, before, of, in, for)

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ the interview, Solomon was confident (2) \_\_\_\_\_ getting the job. He knew that he was qualified (3) \_\_\_\_\_ the job. He was interested (4) \_\_\_\_\_ discharging his duty perfectly. The interview panel was impressed (5) \_\_\_\_\_ his attitude and skills. So (6) \_\_\_\_\_ the interview, he was (7) \_\_\_\_\_ cloud nine.

**Answers:**

1. Before
2. of
3. for
4. in
5. with
6. after
7. on

## Prepositional Phrases

### Task 1

**Underline the prepositional phrases. The first two examples have been done for you.**

1. With reference to your advertisement in a local newspaper, I am applying for the post of a salesman.
2. The assignment will be completed in a few weeks.

**Question (c)**

Ravi was appreciated by his teachers.

**Answer:**

Ravi was appreciated by his teachers.

**Question (d)**

We feel sorry for our mistakes.

**Answer:**

We feel sorry for our mistakes.

**Question (e)**

The boy studied well in spite of many obstacles.

**Answer:**

The boy studied well in spite of many obstacles.

**Question (f)**

Our nation is famous for its glorious culture.

**Answer:**

Our nation is famous for its glorious culture.

**Question (g)**

We are proud of our children.

**Answer:**

We are proud of our children.

**Question (h)**

My brother will return home in the evening.

**Answer:**

My brother will return home in the evening.

## **Task 2**

**Fill in the blanks with suitable prepositional phrase given in brackets.**

(in favour of, in case of, according to, on the whole, on account of, on behalf of, in spite of, instead of)



1. \_\_\_\_ Kiran, Rajesh may attend a programme.
2. Many tourists visited Ooty \_\_\_\_ heavy rains.
3. Expressing gratitude \_\_\_\_ others is common in a vote of thanks.
4. \_\_\_\_ I had a happy childhood.
5. Our teacher always acts like \_\_\_\_ her students.
6. \_\_\_\_ his laziness, the boy remained passive for a long time.
7. \_\_\_\_ Gandhiji, ahimsa means infinite love.
8. \_\_\_\_ rain, take an umbrella.

**Answers:**

1. instead of
2. in spite of
3. on behalf of
4. on the whole
5. in favour of
6. On account of
7. According to
8. In case of

## Connectives or Linkers

<b>Adding connectives</b> as well as, moreover, too, also, besides, furthermore, in addition, etc.	<b>Sequencing connectives</b> first, second, third, after, eventually, finally, meanwhile, now, subsequently, next, etc.	<b>Conditional connectives</b> if, unless
<b>Comparing connectives</b> similarly, likewise, like, whereas, equally, in the same way, etc.	<b>Contrasting connectives</b> unlike, instead of, otherwise, whereas, on the other hand, nevertheless, in spite of, despite, notwithstanding, etc.	<b>Cause and effect connectives</b> consequently, therefore, thus, because, due to, as a result of
<b>Qualifying connectives</b> but, however, unless, although, if, except	<b>Illustrating connectives</b> such as, for example, for instance, in the case of	<b>Place connectives</b> beneath, near, beyond, below
<b>Temporal connectives</b> during, earlier, later, meanwhile, whenever	<b>Emphasizing connectives</b> especially, in particular	

## Task 1

Choose the appropriate linker from within the brackets and complete the sentences.

1. I could not complete my paper in the examination \_\_\_\_ (because, but) I was slow in Answering the Questions.
2. It started raining, \_\_\_\_ (yet, so) we could not play.
3. \_\_\_\_ (As, If) I got up early, I managed to reach school on time.
4. \_\_\_\_ (Though/Whereas) he committed a mistake, he apologised (and/since) promised that he would not repeat it.
5. This is \_\_\_\_ (how/what) it must be done.
6. The vendor saw the train moving slowly from the platform, \_\_\_\_ (therefore/until) he got
7. I was not well, \_\_\_\_ (but/so) I did not attend the class.
8. (If, Although) \_\_\_\_ she can drive , she travels by bus.
9. (If/Unless) \_\_\_\_ you register your name, you cannot participate in the competitions.
10. (As soon as/Besides) \_\_\_\_ my father arrived home, I narrated the incident.
11. Be quick to hear \_\_\_\_ (then/ and) slow to speak.
12. I am \_\_\_\_ (neither/either) an ascetic in theory (nor/or) in practice.
13. We fail to harness the rain water, \_\_\_\_ (consequently, nevertheless) we suffer.
14. My brother will certainly clear GRE; \_\_\_\_ (yet/for) he works very hard.

Answers:

1. because
2. so
3. As
4. Though, and
5. how
6. therefore
7. so
8. Although
9. Unless
10. As soon as
11. and
12. neither, nor
13. consequently
14. for

## Task 2

Combine the sentences and rewrite them using the words given in

## the brackets.

### Question (a)

The well was deep. Therefore, the fox could not get out of the well, (because)

**Answer:**

The fox could not get out of the well because the well was deep.

### Question (b)

The work was over. We went home, (when)

**Answer:**

When the work was over, we went home.

### Question (c)

A library is a public place. We see a number of books kept there for reading, (where)

**Answer:**

A library is a public place where we see a number of books kept for reading.

### Question (d)

The culprit was caught. Immediately, he was taken to the police station, (as soon as)

**Answer:**

As soon as the culprit was caught, he was taken to the police station.

### Question (e)

The boys were stealing mangoes from a grove. At that time, the owner of the grove came in. (while)

**Answer:**

While the boys were stealing mangoes, the owner of the grove came in.

### Question (f)

Artificially flavoured juices are hazardous to health. Moreover, they lead to kidney problems, (and)

**Answer:**

Artificially flavoured juices are hazardous to health and they lead to kidney problems.

### Question (g)

Adit has been promoted. Ranjan has been promoted, (as well as)

**Answer:**

Adit as well as Ranjan have been promoted.

### Question (h)

Caesar was declared emperor. The conspirators killed him. (After)

**Answer:**

After Caesar was declared the emperor, the conspirators killed him.

### Task 3

Fill in the blanks with appropriate correlative conjunctions.

1. She is \_\_\_\_ an understanding person \_\_\_\_ everybody likes to be with her.
2. Suraj owns \_\_\_\_ a typewriter \_\_\_\_ a computer.
3. Vani is \_\_\_\_ a good singer \_\_\_\_ a good dancer.
4. Amit did not know \_\_\_\_ his father met his class teacher \_\_\_\_ not.
5. I would \_\_\_\_ starve \_\_\_\_ beg.

Answers:

1. such, that
2. not only, but also
3. not only, but also
4. whether, or
5. neither, nor

### Writing

#### Article Writing

##### Task 1

The Government of Tamil Nadu has imposed a ban on the use of plastic. Effective implementation of this ban depends on public awareness and individual responsibility.

**Write an article of 150 words for your school magazine to create an awareness of the dangers posed by indiscriminate use of plastic. Expand the ideas given below as notes.**

Notes:

a. Introduction:

1. Plastic – synthetic material – doesn't decompose in the soil
2. Inevitable role of plastic – man's day-to-day life

b. Human Health Hazard:

1. Leeching of plastic into food – microplastic entering the food chain
2. Human body's inability to deal with this unnatural substance
3. The reaction of microplastic in the human body and ill effects

c. Adverse effects on plants and animals:

1. Plastic particles choking waterways – affect aquatic animals
2. Ingestion by aquatic and terrestrial animals -blocking of intestines and respiratory passages

d. Environmental Degradation:

1. The manufacturing process and burning of plastics – pollute the atmosphere
2. Plastic-non-biodegradable – interferes with soil microorganisms – affects soil fertility

e. Conclusion:

1. Suggestions for restricted use – alternatives for one-time use of plastics
2. Segregation of plastic waste – for recycling

## Use of Plastic in Daily Life

### Introduction:

One of the greatest threats to the sustainability of living environment is plastics. It is a synthetic material. It is not biodegradable, it takes hundreds of years to break down into small particles. Without knowing the long term harm plastic can cause to the environment, plastic has entered all walks of life.

### Human health Hazard:

As hot food items are packed in polythene bags, the microplastic enters the food chain. Besides, the plastic waste that is scattered is eaten by stray animals and even huge whales and they die eventually unable to digest them. The microplastic that goes into the human body blocks intestine and also causes respiratory disorders. Reaction to microplastic in human body leads to a lot of disorders and diseases.

### Adverse Effects:

Plastic particles choke the arteries of water ways and affect the lives of marine organisms as well. Ingestion caused by plastic congestion leads to blocks in the intestine, lungs and eventually death in animals.

### Environmental Degradation:

Both the processing involved in the production of plastics and the burning of broken plastic items result in air pollution. The plastic fragments interfere with soil microorganisms and accelerate the infertility of the soil.

### Conclusion:

People need to be sensitized on the uses of safe disposal of plastic waste and not mix it with organic waste. Besides, people must be encouraged to reduce, recycle, and reuse plastic instead of throwing them away.

## Task 2

Urban living brings with it the possibility of various communicable diseases.

Now write an article of about 150 words for a leading newspaper on the various ways of maintaining personal hygiene and sanitation in order to ensure a healthy living. Make use of the hints given below.

Hints:

(a) Introduction – ‘Cleanliness is next to Godliness’ – brief explanation

(b) Personal hygiene:

1. Frequent washing of hands and regular bathing
2. Brushing of teeth, trimming of nails and hair
3. Wearing clean clothes

(c) Keeping diseases at bay:

1. Avoid street food
2. Keep food containers covered
3. Drink boiled water
4. Wash fruits and vegetables in flowing water

(d) Keeping living areas, surroundings, and the environment clean:

1. Disposal of domestic organic waste on a daily basis and hazardous waste in designated places
2. Regular sweeping, mopping, and dusting
3. Disinfection of toilets and bathing areas
4. Avoid littering of public places
5. Avoid spitting, urinating, and defecating in public places

(e) Conclusion – hygiene – a collective exercise – everyone’s involvement and practice, a must – ensure community health and happiness – celebrate life

## Cleanliness is next to Godliness

Introduction:

“Cleanliness is next to Godliness”. Those who keep themselves and their surroundings clean and green live safely without the threat of infectious or contagious diseases.

Personal hygiene:

Regular bathing and hand washing, brushing of teeth, combing the hair, paring the nails and wearing neat dresses are indispensable for ensuring personal hygiene.

Keeping diseases at bay:

People who take street food must avoid them because the food items are exposed to dust and disease-spreading germs. Even at home, we must ensure that the vessels containing food items are well-covered with plates or lids. As water-borne diseases are prevalent in cities and villages, one must drink only boiled water. Farmers use pesticides and hence we should always wash the vegetables and fruits in flowing water before using them for cooking or eating.

Keeping living areas, surroundings, and the environment clean:

We must dispose of organic waste on a daily basis. Hazardous waste must be disposed of in the designated places only. Littering in public places must be avoided. One must have the civic sense and refrain from spitting, urinating and defecating in public places.

Conclusion:

Hygiene is a collective responsibility of all people. For ensuring the health and happiness of the community, everyone must get involved in maintaining cleanliness in their surroundings.

## Suggested Topics:

Importance of Physical Exercises / Sports and Games

Introduction:

A sound mind in a sound body goes the old saying. It holds good in modern times. Physical exercises play a vital role in keeping the body strong.

Kinds of exercises:

The simplest form of exercise is walking. Today people use two wheelers powered by petrol and biologists fear that after a hundred years babies may be born without legs using the theory of selection. As free bus pass is given, students have stopped cycling or walking even a kilometer a day.

Some do cycling on a regular basis and keep fit. Some go to the gym and do body building exercises. But everyone's body's constitution may not permit long hours of work out in a gym.

By playing traditional games like kho-kho, kabaddi, etc. also can maintain good health. In villages, climbing a huge tall oiled smooth pole is a contest during festivals. People stand in circles on whose shoulders young ones climb up to take the prize money kept on the top of



the pole. Playing various games such as Tennis, cricket, basket ball, volleyball, foot ball can also give sufficient physical exercises. Students can partake in athletic events and sports to get enough exercise.

Conclusion:

Students should avoid playing games in the phone and watching domestic poison (i.e.) TV serials. Playing and doing physical exercises in the open air will tone up their muscles and build their immune system against diseases.

## **Travel and its Benefits**

Introduction:

Travelling is a great teacher. Augustine says, “the world is a great book of which those who don’t travel read only a page.” Reading about Kashmir or Kodaikanal may not be as fascinating as traveling by car or train and drink and appreciate the beauty of nature.

Heresy vs the first-hand experience:

Reading about Ooty is less interesting than visiting Ooty in person. Seeing the flower show when Ooty is in full bloom is equal to seeing it in a hundred movies. Walking around Botanical gardens, gazing at the valley below from Doddabetta peak, enjoying the boat ride dipping the hands into the chill waters, and looking at the Pykara hydel power project are all scenic beauties one etches in one’s memories for long.

Advantages of travelling:

Life is a book full of surprises. As we travel we meet many new and interesting people. We learn about new cultures, life styles, superstitions and rituals followed in different communities across the globe.

Travelling-testing ground of skills:

During travels, one may face unforeseen emergencies. One’s latent skills of problem-solving come to limelight during such emergencies. One would also be amazed to learn how total strangers bestow kindness he/she may not have expected in crises.

Conclusion:

Travel broadens one’s outlook of life. It is also a means of education. It is one of the precious gifts of life. One must travel far and wide to enjoy life-transforming experiences which can never be had inside the four walls of classrooms or home.

## **Water Conservation**

#### Introduction:

Water is the elixir of life. Earth is the only lonely planet having life-supporting water in abundance. The earth is covered with 71% water. But potable water is only around 1%.

#### Need to conserve water:

Due to erratic rainfall caused by deforestation, water tables are fast drying up. Global warming is adding to the problem. Even underground water is sucked up by sunlight. Tamil Nadu Government is very strict about water harvesting. Permission to build is given only after ensuring a water harvesting facility is added to the blueprint.

#### War for water:

In the olden days, wars were waged on rare beauties and gold. But in modern times, the countries which possess a large amount of drinking water will become envious targets of water-hungry nations. Abdul Kalam, the rocket scientist, predicted, for a water can, people would go to the extent of murdering fellow humans. Already interstate quarrels have started over the sharing of river waters. On the one hand, the surplus rainwater goes to ocean and during summer, there is a scarcity of water. There are no check dams on the path of rivers. There is greedy robbery of sand. River beds are becoming moist-free desert-like plains.

#### Water conservation:

When Israel is able to do agriculture profitably with very little rains, we struggle to ensure lucrative prices for farm products. Many states in India have failed to conserve rainwater where surplus rainwater rushes to the ocean through flood canals.

#### Conclusion:

Unwise use of water is rampant across the country. Through leaky pipes, good water goes down the drain. It is the collective responsibility of citizens and municipal authorities to conserve water and sustain life on the earth.

## Child Labour

#### Introduction:

Child labour has emerged as a major issue in India. To address this social issue, NGOs, parents, social activists and society have to join hands to attack this issue. There is a legal provision to safeguard exploited persons beyond the age of 16. But young children don't get the advantage of legal cover.

#### Causes of child labour:

In many developing countries, child labour is rampant. The prominent reasons are sibling care, poverty and lack of schooling opportunities. In developing countries 50% of school aged population (in the age group of 5-14) are engaged in child labour.

Distribution of child labour:

In the farming industry, child labour is rampant. In labor-intensive cotton industries, bricklaying industries and in the informal sector we find a large number of children employed. In small scale industries like weaving, match works, fire crackers, children are engaged as bond labourers to lessen the financial burden of parents.

Conclusion:

It is a cruel paradox that instead of eliminating child labour, we have NCLP, non-formal schools to give education to child labourers. Mainstreaming is not a success due to inadequate monitoring. It is comforting to learn that international organization have taken up the cause of fighting against child labour. All must realize that healthy children are the real future of India. Child labour is retarding the progress of the children and the nation.

## Mobile Phone – Advantages and Disadvantages

Introduction:

Mobile phone is a palm-held device which has revolutionized the world of communication. A mobile phone does not require a fixed landline and makes two way communication easy and affordable. Telegram department had to be closed due to the lightning speed with which messages could be sent orally or through SMS.

Mobile functions and advantages:

A mobile phone can be used for watching cricket, movie or just listen to the news. Students now google for collecting information for their assignments and projects. A recent survey says 50% of youth read newspapers only through their android phones. The habit of reading books or dictionaries is falling due to quick access to information via mobile and internet services. Through Ola and Uber apps one can summon a call taxi or even order food from Uber eats or Ola food through these apps for a cheap cost. Railway and flight tickets can be booked online.

Memorable events can be frozen in photos or videos and saved in the phone itself. Money transfer is now possible through using PayTM, Bhim app, or googles money app. As many online newspapers are freely available, people save money.

Big Bazaar sells even vegetables through the phone. Flipkart and Amazon apps help one to place an order for any home appliances at competitive prices.

Disadvantages:

Social websites such as Whatsapp, Twitter, and Facebook keep young ones continuously engaged and crazy for likes. Sometimes evildoers access valuable information and exploit women and children. Sharing vital information, photos, videos, etc. with total strangers can jeopardize one's honour and life too. Students who get addicted to video games and watching explicit content waste their time and energy and dropout of school.

Conclusion:

The mobile phone is a technological marvel. Similar to any new technology, it has its fascinating traps. One must use mobile phones judiciously and stay out of harm and disgrace.

## Consumerism – Wants and Needs

Introduction:

The consumer has the right to decide what he needs and what he wants to buy. But due to the explosive non-stop advertisements on the television, theatres, print media, and in handbills, the consumer is often influenced to buy what he actually does not need.

The problem of plenty:

A good trader needs to find a balance between both the need and want of the consumer. As many malls have sprung up in big cities and departmental stores in small towns, the consumer's rights to choose what he needs are eroded. There's a problem of plenty.

Astute traders Vs gullible customers:

As seasons change, consumers want to change the design of their jewels, wardrobes, etc. Astute traders dump a lot of varieties and under the pretext of discount and offers sub-standard commodities are sold to the consumers.

Conclusion:

The rules of business have changed widely now. Each consumer is different. Traders who are able to recognize the need of the consumer and supply custom-made or tailored commodities can only satisfy their wants and stabilize their business in the competitive market.

## Value of Education

Introduction:

Education helps young ones acquire essential knowledge and skills. In modern times, the teacher alone is not the dispenser of knowledge. School alone is not the abode of learning. There are many avenues from where students can learn freely.

Value of education:

Education teaches students to understand the fast-changing world and problems of modern society and also evolve solutions in unconventional ways. Education shapes the destiny of a nation. It enables young ones to become productive members of the civilized society and equips them with the required skill sets to seek jobs and shine in them too.

Education teaches us how to meet day to day challenges and overcome obstacles. It helps us learn how to become a well-rounded personality and perpetuate Indian culture. Education teaches young citizens non-negotiable rules in life and manners too. It lays the foundation stone for the future of children. It guides young ones to lead a disciplined life and gives them with skills to earn jobs which would pay them well.

Conclusion:

India has to invest more in quality education in our country because education is the prerequisite to the nation's prosperity and modernization of the country.

## Value-based Education

Introduction:

Education needs to ennoble human beings. It should teach sensitivity to the social issues which affect the progress of the nation. Education must sensitize students to the sweeping changes occurring around them in modern times.

Importance of value-based Education:

Education without values seems rather make a man a mere clever devil. Nelson Mandela once rightly said, "Education is the most powerful weapon through which you can change the world." The aim of education should not be confined only to impart knowledge but to inculcate values in young and impressionable minds.

Rote memory vs value-based education:

Currently, rote memorization is largely emphasized. Factual information needs to be mastered and not memorized and regurgitated during examinations. This system fails to give any opportunity to think outside the box. As we are moving towards becoming a knowledge economy, moral values have taken a back seat. Juvenile delinquency is threatening the value system of the country. The students may be intelligent and smart but they lack empathy. The schooling system has failed to inculcate the right values among children. It is unfortunate that neither teachers nor the students focus on values for it is not graded. Virtue should never ask for a reward because it is a reward in itself. India would regain its glory when students inculcate values like honesty, patriotism, compassion and hardwork.

Conclusion:

Education is a life long process. In real life, it is to be translated into qualities of truthfulness, self-confidence, compassion to all living things, and integration of mind, body and brain. In short, value-based education has the capacity to transform the corrupt mind into a very innocent, healthy, natural, fresh mind embellished with agape love.

## Essay Writing

## Task 1

Write an essay of about 200 words each.

### 1. The profession you would like to choose

Introduction:

People do have dreams right from their childhood days about their careers. Albert Einstein was asked in his death bed, "what did you want to become in your life?" Tears trickled down his eyes and he said, "I wanted to be a plumber. But my vocational instructor drove me out saying. That I don't have the required skills.

Changing ambitions of children:

Children keep changing their ambitions as their role models change as they grow older and wiser. But I have decided to become a pilot in the Indian force. I want to conquer the skies and fly faster than sound. I know it is a challenging career. After the Pulwama attack, the heroic role played by the twelve pilots of the Indian Air force struck at the hearts of terrorists in Pakistan. destroying the hideouts and training schools of terror impressed me. I do foresee the threat to life. Abinandhan, wing commander was released after India's persistent diplomatic efforts across the world. I was overwhelmed by the united voice of India seeking Abinandhan, every Indian citizen was praying for the safe return of the sky warrior who had shot down F-16 with MiG 21 Bison, an aging aircraft.

His composure under the custody of Pak army really motivated young people to stay calm during crisis. In Tamil Nadu, two soldiers who died in Pulwama attack were mourned by the whole state. Transcending barriers of caste, religion, and political alliances, all came to console the family members. Unknown people started donating their life-time savings. So, I have made up my mind to serve the Indian Airforce. I want to live and die as a jawan with legitimate pride. Only in the armed forces, I find dignity in both services and in death.

Conclusion:

People pursue various kinds of careers for the sake of monetary aspects. But I choose airman's career so that I will become a part of the pride of Indian armed forces.

### 2. The importance of a balanced diet

Introduction:

This is a pertinent topic when young children are becoming early victims of obesity. Most of the children in cities have got addicted to fat-saturated foods such as pizza, burgers, and other fast foods which cause cholesterol. Eating balanced diet (i.e.) nutritious food is crucial if one wants to lead a healthy lifestyle.

Balanced diet:

Balanced food is not about having the right kind of foods alone, but eating them at the right

time in the right proportions. Millets and nutritious food items are available in plenty even in rural areas.

#### Intake of liquids:

Fluids are quite indispensable for the human body to lead a healthy lifestyle. Scientists claim that 80% of the human body is filled with water. It is also a co-factor in many of the metabolic activities in the body leading to metabolic changes. At least two to three litres of water is essential for everyone. This can be achieved by restricting the intake of coffee and tea and consuming water as frequently as possible.

#### Fresh vegetables and fruits:

Regular intake of fruits and vegetables will invariably avoid many health disorders. It is believed that a balanced diet must contain all five tastes (i.e.) bitter, pungent, sour, sweet and salt. The avoidance of processed or tinned food is good because processed foods are deprived of their nutritional values. Transfat substances in processed and junk foods is harmful to us.

#### How to eat:

One must chew the food one consumes to ensure easy digestion. One must eat only what is required. Overeating will result in obesity and overweight. One can start the diet as per the directions of one's family doctor or dietician.

#### Conclusion:

If one does not take a balanced diet with green vegetables and fibre, one may have to spend a lot to recover the lost health.

### 3. A memorable journey

#### Introduction:

One learns a lot about the world and life during travels. One gets to meet new people and find new cultures. I had an opportunity to visit Darjeeling along with my uncle who is working there.

#### Darjeeling, the Queen of hill stations:

Darjeeling is a mesmerizing hill station located in West Bengal. While travelling in the amazing toy train I was transported to heaven. The lush green hills, beautiful serene monasteries, tea plantations, and the clouds that played hide and seek with the Sun really dazzled me.

I spoke to the natives. They understood Hindi and Bengali. Fortunately my uncle knew Bengali and he could translate what people said in English and Tamil which broke the barrier of language. There were frequent mild rainfalls which ran chills down my spine. I

can never forget the travel on the toy train from Jalpaiguri to Darjeeling. The tracks rise from sea level to 7500 ft in just about 70 km. In order to overcome the gradients, the train used zig zag reverses and loops. Batasia loop is the most famous loop with the figure of eight. As the train slowly went for seven hours, I could drink the beauty of nature and take in the fresh air of the green forests.

I went to Kangchenjunga the third highest mountain in the world with an altitude of 8586 meters above the sea. I felt like standing on top of the World. Sunrise from tiger hill was the most fascinating scene I can never forget in my life.

Conclusion:

I strongly recommend that all my friends must visit Daijeeling once in their life.

## **A Nice Cup of Tea About The Author**



Eric Arthur Blair (25 June 1903-21 January 1950), better known by his pen name George Orwell, was an English novelist, essayist, journalist, and critic whose work is marked by clear prose, awareness of social iniquity, opposition to totalitarianism, and candid support of democratic socialism.

Orwell wrote literary criticism, poetry, fiction and polemical journalism. He is best known for the allegorical novella *Animal Farm* (1945) and the dystopian novel *Nineteen Eighty-Four* (1949). In 2008, *The Times* ranked him second on a list of "The 50 greatest British writers since 1945".

## **A Nice Cup of Tea Summary in English**

### **About Nice Cup of Tea**

Tea is one of the mainstays of civilization in India, China, U.K., Japan, Australia and New Zealand. It is curious because the best manner of making it is the subject of violent disputes. For George Orwell it is a national issue. Orwell himself went through a great deal of trouble in importing tea to drink personally. This essay is probably a reflection of his passion of preparing and drinking tea. It is a discussion on the craft of making a cup of tea.



Another view is that Orwell wrote the essay with political undertones. He used a cup of tea as the instrument for airing his political views.

### **Missing entry in the cookery book**

'Tea' is not mentioned in the cookery book. There may be sketchy references on the instructions about the process of making tea.

### **Tea-making – A subject of controversies**

The author admits that tea is a mainstay of the civilization in UK, Australia, New Zealand and in Eire. What is the best manner of making a nice cup of tea is the subject of violent disputes between tea lovers.

### **Eleven tips for making tea Indian tea – the nicest tea**

Firstly, the author prefers Indian to Chinese tea. The Chinese tea is economical in the sense one can drink it without milk. But Chinese tea doesn't give the stimulation, wisdom or bravery one expects after the intake of a nice cup of tea. The author associates "nice cup of tea" only with Indian tea.

### **Quantity vs Quality**

Tea ought to be made in small quantities (i.e) in a tea pot. Tea made in the urn is tasteless. Army tea made in Cauldron tastes of grease and whitewash. Tea pot should be made of China clay or earthenware. The tea produced with silver or Britannia ware and enamel pots is always inferior in quality. However, he agrees that tea made in pewter teapots is not so bad.

### **Method**

Thirdly the pot should be warmed beforehand. This could be done better by placing the teapot on the hob than by swilling it out with hot water.

### **Strong vs weak tea**

Fourthly, tea must be strong. Six heaped tea spoons of leaves would be right if the quart holding pot is to be filled with water to the brim. Maybe it is ideal when the rationing of tea leaves is done. But one cup of strong tea is better than twenty weak ones. True tea lovers, as they age, want to take stronger tea and hence extra rationing of tea is done in ration shops for old age pensioners.

### **Indicator of quality of tea**

Fifthly tea should be put straight into the pot. Muslin bags and strainers or other devices imprison tea. Baskets meant for filtering tea leaves are harmful. One can swallow tea-leaves in considerable quantities. Loose tea in the pot is an indicator of quality.

### **Boiled or Boiling teapot**

Sixthly, one should take the teapot to the kettle. The water should be boiled at the moment of impact (i.e.) while pouring it. Some maintain that tea should be poured from freshly boiled water which makes no difference.

### **Shake well**

Seventhly, after making the tea, one must stir well and allow the tea leaves to settle down.

### **Drink from breakfast cup**

One should drink from a big breakfast cup which is cylindrical in shape. The flat shallow cup starts cooling off quickly thereby the quality gets lost.

### **Creamless milk**

One should throw away the cream of the milk before mixing it with tea. The cream gives a sickly taste to the tea.

### **Milk first vs Tea first schools**

TEA TIME DICTIONARY	
	<b>Cream Tea</b> A simple tea service consisting of scones, clotted cream, marmalade or lemon curd and tea.
	<b>Elevensies</b> Morning coffee hour in England.
	<b>Afternoon Tea</b> What we imagine all British teas to be. An afternoon meal, served typically from 2 – 4 pm, which includes the tiers of smart little crustless sandwiches, scones, clotted cream, curd, 2-3 sweets and heaps of tea.
	<b>Low Tea</b> This is still an afternoon tea, but called “low tea” because guests are seated in low armchairs with low side-tables on which to place their cups and saucers.
	<b>Royale Tea</b> A social tea served with champagne at the beginning, or sherry at the end.
	<b>Celebration Tea</b> Another variation of afternoon tea with a celebratory cake which is also served alongside the other sweets.
	<b>High Tea</b> A meal eaten in the late afternoon or early evening, consisting of a cooked dish, bread & butter, & tea. Families with servants often took high tea on Sundays to allow the maids & butlers time to go to church & not worry about cooking.

Tenthly, the author believes strongly that tea must be poured and stirred. Then the milk must be added. This would exactly regulate the amount of milk poured. If milk is already poured and tea is added the quantity and impact of tea will not be optimum.

### Sugarless tea- the nicest tea

Lastly, the author disapproves of Russian tea or tea that is taken with sugar. He doubts the sanity of the choice of tea with sugar as it would really spoil the taste of tea. He recommends misguided individuals who take tea with sugar to switch over to sugarless tea for a fortnight. He guarantees that they would not go back to sweet tea as they would realize the real taste of tea.

### Mysterious social etiquette

Some claim that it is vulgar to take tea from the saucer. There are other advantages of tea

leaves such as telling fortunes, predicting the arrival of guests, feeding rabbits, healing bums, and sweeping the carpets.

## **Conclusion**

The author tries to reiterate the point only by using boiling water one can get twenty strong cups of tea from two ounces of tea leaves given in ration. The point that sugarless tea is good is endorsed by doctors also as a good practice.

# Poem

## Our Casuarina Tree

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### Warm Up

#### Question 1.

You visit your school after several years. As you cross the banyan tree at the entrance, cheerful memories fill your mind. Fill the bubbles with a your memories.



Answer:



**1. Fill in the blanks choosing the words from the box given and complete the summary of the poem.**

[python, statue, nature, casement, nostalgic, lamenting, impressive, forgotten, giant, consecrates, springing, sanctified]

The casuarina tree is tall and strong, with a creeper winding around it like a (1) \_\_\_\_ The tree stands like a (2) \_\_\_\_ with a colourful scarf of flowers. Birds surround the garden and the sweet song of the birds is heard. The poet is delighted to see the casuarina tree through her (3) \_\_\_\_ She sees a grey monkey sitting like a (4) \_\_\_\_ on top of the tree, the cows grazing and the water lilies (5) \_\_\_\_ in the pond. The poet feels that the tree is dear to her not for its (6) \_\_\_\_ appearance but for the (7) \_\_\_\_ memories of her happy childhood that it brings to her. She strongly believes that (8) \_\_\_\_ communicates with human beings. The poet could communicate with the tree even when she was in a far-off land as she could hear the tree (9) \_\_\_\_ her absence. The poet (10) \_\_\_\_ the tree's memory to her loved ones, who are not alive. She immortalizes the tree through her poem like the poet Wordsworth who (11) \_\_\_\_ the yew tree of Borrowdale in verse. She expresses her wish that the tree should be remembered out of love and not just because it cannot be (12) \_\_\_\_

**Answer:**

1. python
2. giant
3. casement
4. statue
5. springing
6. impressive
7. nostalgic
8. nature
9. lamenting
10. consecrates
11. sanctified
12. forgotten

## 2. Based on your understanding of the poem, Answer the following Questions in one or two sentences each.

**Question (a)**

What is the creeper compared to?

**Answer:**

The creeper is compared to a huge python. The Casuarina tree is referred to here.

**Question (b)**

How does the creeper appear on the tree?

**Answer:**

The creeper appears like a huge python.

**Question (c)**

Describe the garden during the night.

**Answer:**

During the night, the garden seems delightful to watch it. Birds surround the garden and the sweet song of the birds is heard.

**Question (d)**

How does the poet spend her winter?

**Answer:**

In winter the poet observes a gray baboon that sits in the crust of Casuarina Tree. It looks like a statue sitting and watching the sunrise. At the same time, her young ones leap about and play in the lower branches of the tree.

**Question (e)**

Name the bird that sings in the poet's garden.

**Answer:**

The bird that sings in the poet's garden is Kokilas.

**Question (f)**

Why is the casuarina tree dear to the poet's heart?

**Answer:**

Casuarina tree is dear to the poets' heart because she and her childhood friends played under that tree.

**Question (g)**

Does nature communicate with human beings?

**Answer:**

Yes, nature communicates with human beings.

**Question (h)**

What has Wordsworth sanctified in his poem?

**Answer:**

Wordsworth has sanctified trees in Borrowdale in his poems.

**Question (i)**

To whom does Toru Dutt want to consecrate the tree's memory?

**Answer:**

The poet Toru Dutt wants to consecrate the tree's memory to her loved ones, who are not alive.

**Question (j)**

The casuarina tree will be remembered forever. Why?

**Answer:**

The casuarina tree will be remembered forever because it is immortalized in Toru Dutt's poem.

## Appreciate The Poem

### 3. Read the lines given below and Answer the Questions that follow.

(a) "A creeper climbs, in whose embraces bound  
No other tree could live."

**Question (i)**

Which tree is referred to in the above lines?

**Answer:**

'Casuarina tree' is referred to in the above lines.

**Question (ii)**

How does the tree survive the tight hold of the creeper?

**Answer:**

The tree takes the tight hold of the creeper like the embraces of lady love. So, it doesn't hurt the tree. It grows stronger bearing the bite marks of love.

**Question (iii)**

Why does Toru Dutt use the expression 'a creeper climbs'?

**Answer:**

Toru Dutt uses the expression 'A creeper climbs' because it has left deep marks on the trunk of the tree and it holds the tree tightly to the height.

(b) "The giant wears the scarf, and flowers are hung  
In crimson clusters all the bough among!"

(i) Who is the giant here?

**Answer:**

Casuarina tree is the giant here.

(ii) Why is the scarf colourful?

**Answer:**

The scarf is colourful because the tight embrace of the creeper has caused the crimson colour on its outer skin. The poem has a reference to the three young Dutt's who were affected by tuberculosis and eventually died. The creeper could also refer to TB which sapped the tree's life.

(c) "Fear, trembling Hope, and Death, the skeleton,  
And Time the shadow", and though weak the verse That would thy beauty fain, oh, fain  
rehearse,  
May Love defend the tree from oblivion's curse."



**Question (i)**

What does the poet mean by the expression 'May love defend thee from oblivion's curse?'

**Answer:**

Any living thing will have to meet death. But the poet deeply believes that her love for the tree would ensure its immortality. She will live forever in her verses.

**Question (ii)**

What does the expression 'fain' convey?

**Answer:**

Fain means eagerly.

**Question (iii)**

What does the poet convey through the expression 'Fear, trembling hope'?

Fear and trembling hope mean the fear of lurking death and trembling hope is that death may not attack in the near future.

## **Additional Questions**

**Read the lines given below and Answer the Questions that follow.**

(a) "And oft at nights the garden overflows  
With one sweet song that seems to have no close,  
Sung darkling from our tree, while men repose "

**Question (i)**

What overflows the garden at night?

**Answer:**

One sweet song overflows in the garden at night.

**Question (ii)**

What is called 'darkling'?

**Answer:**

Nightingale is called the darkling.

**Question (iii)**

When does the bird sing her sweet song?

**Answer:**

The bird sings her sweet song when people sleep at night.

**Question (b)**

"A gray baboon sits statue-like alone  
Watching the sunrise; while on lower boughs  
His puny offspring leap about and play; "

**Question (i)**

What is called a baboon?

**Answer:**

Baboon is a type of large monkey.

**Question (ii)**

What is curious about the baboon?

**Answer:**

The baboon sits like a statue and watches the sunrise from the crest of the Casuarina tree.

**Question (iii)**

What do the puny offsprings of the monkey do?

**Answer:**

The puny offsprings of the monkey were leaping and playing at the lower branches of the tree.

(c) "But not because of its magnificence Dear is the Casuarina to my soul:  
Beneath it we have played; though years may roll,"

**Question (i)**

What is not the cause for Toru Dutt's love for the Casuarina tree?

**Answer:**

The magnificence or the impressive appearance of the tree is not the cause for Toru Dutt's love for the Casuarina tree.

**Question (ii)**

What makes the tree dear to the poet?

**Answer:**

As children, the poet and her friends had played under the tree. This experience has made the tree dear to the poet.

**Question (iii)**

What is the poet unable to forget despite the passage of years?

**Answer:**

The poet is unable to forget the wonderful time she had under the tree with her friends.

(d) "For your sakes, shall the tree be ever dear.  
Blent with your images, it shall arise  
In memory, till the hot tears blind mine eyes!"

**Question (i)**

For whose sake the trees will be dear to the poet?

**Answer:**

For the sake of three younger Dutts who died of Tuberculosis, the tree will be dear to Toru ' Dutt.

**Question (ii)**

Whose images bring out hot tears?

**Answer:**

The images of siblings who died due to TB bring out hot tears.

**Question (iii)**

What blinds the poets' eyes?

**Answer:**

Tears fill and blind her eyes.

**Question (e)**

" What is that dirge-like murmur that I hear Like the sea breaking on a shingle-beach?

**Answer:**

It is the tree's lament, an eerie speech, "

**Question (i)**

What do you mean by dirge?

**Answer:**

'Dirge' means a lament for the dead.

**Question (ii)**

Why does the tree lament?

**Answer:**

The tree laments the absence of the poet.

**Question (iii)**

What appears to be an "eerie speech"?

The dirge like murmur appears to be an "eerie speech".

OR

What do you mean by "eerie speech"?

Eerie speech means unearthly or ghostly speech.

(f) "My inner vision rose a form sublime,  
Thy form, O Tree, as in my happy prime  
I saw tree, in my own loved native clime."

**Question (i)**

What rose in the mind of the poet?

**Answer:**

A glorious inner vision arose in the mind of the poet.

**Question (ii)**

What was found in the sublime inner vision?

**Answer:**

The tree's youthful and handsome figure was found in the inner vision of the poet.

(iii) What do you mean by native clime?

**Answer:**

It means the natural climate in the home background.

(g) "Therefore I fain could consecrate a lay  
Unto thy honor, Tree, beloved of those  
Who now in blessed sleep for aye repose,"

**Question (i)**

What does the poet want to do?

**Answer:**

The poet wants to consecrate the tree.

**Question (ii)**

In whose honour does she want to consecrate the tree?

**Answer:**

She wants to consecrate the tree to the memory of her beloved siblings.

**Question (iii)**

What does 'blessed sleep' mean?

**Answer:**

'Blessed sleep' means death.

**Question (h)**

"Maysi thou be numbered when my days are done  
With deathless trees – like those in Borrowdale,  
Under whose awful branches lingered pale"

**Question (i)**

What does the poet predict in the words "when my days are done"?

**Answer:**

The poet predicts her own death in the words "when my days are done".

**Question (iii)**

What was the condition of the trees in Borrowdale?

**Answer:**

The tree was aging fast. It looked sickly as if it was waiting for the sickle of death.

**Question (iii)**

Who made the tree deathless? How?

**Answer:**

William Wordsworth sang about the trees in Borrowdale and thus the trees became deathless.

#### **4. Explain the following lines with reference to the context.**

**Question (a)**

“Dear is the Casuarina to my soul;”

**Answer:**

Reference: These words are from the poem ‘Our Casuarina Tree’ written by T. S. Eliot.

Context and Explanation: The poet says this while highlighting the importance of the Casuarina tree in her life. The poet explains that she, her friends, and siblings have spent long hours playing and enjoying themselves under the tree’s shade. So, it is dear to her soul.

**Question (b)**

“It is the tree’s lament, an eerie speech,…”

**Answer:**

Reference: These words are from the poem ‘Our Casuarina Tree’ written by T. S. Eliot.

Context and Explanation: The poet says these words while explaining the grief experienced by the Casuarina tree in the long spells of her absence. Even when she was as far as in the coasts of Italy and France she could hear the murmur of grief or lament from her tree. It appeared an eerie speech.

**Question (c)**

“Unto thy honor, Tree, beloved of those  
Who now in blessed sleep for aye repose,”

**Answer:**

Reference: These lines are from the poem ‘Our Casuarina Tree’ written by T. S. Eliot.

Context and Explanation: The poet says this while consecrating the memories of the tree to the dear departed. The poet remembers with pain three younger Duttos who succumbed to tuberculosis.

### **Additional Questions**

#### **Explain the following lines with reference to the context.**

**Question (a)**

“A creeper climbs, in whose embraces bound No other tree could live”

**Answer:**

Reference: These words are from the poem ‘Our Casuarina Tree’ written by T. S. Eliot.

Context and Explanation: The poet says this while appreciating the strength of her Casuarina tree. The creeper saps the tree for its survival and growth. But the tree treats the

creeper's tight hold as a lover's embrace. It ignores bite marks of love. It allows the creeper to lean on its trunk and live. The tree also grows stout and strong.

**Question (b)**

"The giant wears the scarf, and flowers are hung"

**Answer:**

Reference: These words are from the poem 'Our Casuarina Tree' written by Toru Dutt.

Context and Explanation: The poet says these words while describing the might of the Casuarina tree. The climber has climbed around the tree like a python trying to sap its life out. But the gallant tree wears the creeper like a scarf around its neck. The poet calls the tree a 'giant' unmindful of the attempt of the creeper to strangle it.

**Question (c)**

"Sung darkling from our tree, while men repose"

**Answer:**

Reference: These lines are from the poem 'Our Casuarina Tree' written by Toru Dutt.

Context and Explanation: The poet says this while describing Casuarina and its inhabitants at night. When men are sleeping, Darkling (i.e.) Nightingale sings sweetly from the Casuarina tree. It is a kind of a lullaby to sleeping humans.

**Question (d)**

"When first my casement is wide open thrown  
At dawn, my eyes delighted on it rest;"

**Answer:**

Reference: These lines are from the poem 'Our Casuarina Tree' written by Toru Dutt.

Context and Explanation: The poet says these words while talking about the early influences of the Casuarina tree in her life. Her day started with seeing the tree with delight. The very first thing she used to see was the Casuarina tree through her casement (i.e.) door-like window.

**Question (e)**

"Unknown, yet well-known to the eye of faith! Ah,  
I have heard that wail far, far away"

Reference: These words are from the poem 'Our Casuarina Tree' written by Toru Dutt.

Context and Explanation: The poet says these words while talking about the faith-fuelled communication between herself and the Casuarina though divided by thousands of kilometers of distance. William Wordsworth also could sense communication of nature similar to Toru Dutt. The tree and the poet shared an emotional bond. Even when she was far away she could hear the 'wail' or lament of the tree expressing the grief of missing her presence.

**Question (f)**

"Thy form, O Tree, as in my happy prime  
I saw thee, in my own loved native clime."

**Answer:**

Reference: These lines are from the poem 'Our Casuarina Tree' written by Toru Dutt.

Context and Explanation: The poet says these words recalling the appearance of the lush green giant Casuarina tree when she was a little girl. The image of the giant Casuarina tree is etched in the memory of the poet.

(g) "Dearer than life to me, alas, were they!"

**Answer:**

Reference: These lines are from the poem 'Our Casuarina Tree' written by Toru Dutt.

Context and Explanation: The poet says these words while recalling younger Dutt who had succumbed to Tuberculosis. She remembers with poignance the numerous days they had spent under the Casuarina tree.

**Question (h)**

"May Love defend thee from oblivion's curse."

**Answer:**

Reference: These lines are from the poem 'Our Casuarina Tree' written by Tom Dutt.

Context and Explanation: The poet says these words while expressing her wish to ensure the immortality of the tree. Her love for the Casuarina tree frozen in her poem will invariably help the tree to escape the curse of death and death-caused oblivion or forgetfulness.

**Question (i)**

"Mays/ thou be numbered when my days are done With deathless trees – like those in Borrowdale,"

**Answer:**

Reference: These lines are from the poem 'Our Casuarina Tree' written by Tom Dutt.

Context and Explanation: The poet says these words while sharing her obvious concern for the ageing Casuarina tree. She is sure that the tree may meet the fate of humans and all other trees. But her unfathomable love for the tree influences her to make it as immortal as the yew tree in Borrowdale which was immortalized by William Wordsworth.

**5. Identify the figure of speech used in each of the extracts given below and write down the Answer in the space given below. The first one is done for you.**

**Question (a)**

"LIKE a huge Python, winding round and round  
The rugged trunk indented deep with scars",

**Answer:**

Zoomorphism / Simile

**Question (b)**

"A creeper climbs, in whose embraces bound  
No other tree could live. But gallantly  
The giant wears a scarf, and flowers are hung. "

**Answer:**

Personification (As the creeper is said to embrace the tree, the tree also gallantly, like a bold lover, accepts the embrace)

**Question (c)**

"A gray baboon sits statue-like alone"

**Answer:**

Simile

**Question (d)**

"The water-lilies spring, like snow enmassed."

**Answer:**

Simile

**Question (e)**

"What is that dirge-like murmur that I hear Like the sea breaking on a shingle – beach?"

**Answer:**

Simile

## **Additional Questions**

**Identify the figure of speech used in each of the extracts given below and write down the Answer in the space given below. The first one is done for you.**

**Question (a)**

"It is the tree's lament, "

**Answer:**

Personification

**Question (b)**

"Fear trembling hope. "

**Answer:**

Personification

**Question (e)**

"Time the shadow"

**Answer:**

Metaphor



**Question (d)**

"The giant wears the scarf"

**Answer:**

Personification

**Question (e)**

"Like snow enmassed"

**Answer:**

Simile

**Question (f)**

"The waves gently kissed"

**Answer:**

Personification

**Question (g)**

"The earth lay tranced in dreamless..."

**Answer:**

Personification

**Question (h)**

"Ah, I have heard that wail far away"

**Answer:**

Personification

## **6. Answer each of the following Questions in a paragraph of 100 - 150 words.**

**Question (a)**

Describe the reminiscences of the poet, when she sees the casuarina tree.

**Answer:**

The poet remembers how her days started with the sight of the Casuarina tree from her casement. She remembers how her loving companions played under the giant Casuarina tree. The memory of her beloved companions brings hot tears because they had succumbed to cruel tuberculosis. She remembers how well the tree accommodated birds to sing songs during days and nights. The tree had allowed the creeper to embrace it like a lady love. Though it sapped its vitality, like a gallant lover, allowed the creeper to stay around its neck like a scarf. She remembers how a baboon seated at the crest of the tree had watched beautiful sunrise while her young ones were leaping and playing in the lower branches of the giant tree.

**Question (b)**

How does nature communicate with the poet?

**Answer:**

Like Wordsworth, Toru Dutt is also a great lover of nature. She has also had mystical experiences in communion with nature. The emotional bonding between herself and the giant Casuarina tree is beyond reason. When she is away on the shores of Italy and France, she could distinctly hear the dirge-like murmur of her beloved tree who obviously missed her. She could perceive it as the tree's lament and eerie speech expressing its anguish over the long spells of her absence.

Ordinary human eyes will fail to perceive the distinct communication of the Casuarina tree. But through the eyes of faith, similar to William Wordsworth's inward eye in the poem 'Daffodils' it is possible. She was able to vividly see in her inner vision the sublime form of the Casuarina tree. The surprising thing is that she was able to see the tree in its prime in her own "loved native clime."

**Question (c)**

The poet immortalizes the tree. Elucidate.

**Answer:**

The poet, Toru Dutt was conscious of the fact that her most endeared Casuarina tree was growing old. The fate that befalls aged humans and trees would ultimately grab the Casuarina tree too. Time, though slow, is ready with its sickle to harvest the lives of all living things. Being a well-read poet, she recalls how William Wordsworth had immortalized his favourite lonely tall yew tree in his poem, "Yew-trees". Taking inspiration from him, she decides to prevent her favourite tree from dying and passing into the irreversible world of oblivion by writing a poem about the tree. True to her faith the tree lives on in our memories. As long as tongues can speak and eyes can see, the Casuarina tree will live in the hearts of millions of people till the end of the world.

## Additional Questions

**Question (a)**

Give a summary of the poem

"Our casuarina tree"

**Answer:**

The poet Toru Dutt describes the perpetually young Casuarina tree in this poem. The tree is tall and mighty. A creeper winds around its huge and wide trunk like a python. Birds chirp happily. The poet is ecstatic seeing the tree from her casement/window. In fact, she greets the tree every day soon after getting up from the bed. She finds a baboon sitting like a statue on top of the tree. The cows are grazing in the lush green meadows around the tree. Water lilies add to the charm of the pond. She recalls that the tree is dear not because of its majestic looks but because of the nostalgic memories attached to it.

She remembers the happy times she had spent with her siblings, who are now no more, under the tree. They died of consumption. Their absence makes the tree much more

endearing to the poet. Mysteriously she hears the grief-filled lament of the tree when she is on the shores of France and Italy. She consecrates the tree's memory to her dear departed siblings. Taking inspiration from William Wordsworth's poem 'Yew-trees', she also wishes to immortalize the Casuarina tree. So she sings about it in her poem.

## Listening Activity

**First, read the Questions given below, then listen to the poem, read aloud by the teacher, or played on an audio player. Then Answer the Questions based on your listening of the poem.**

### Midnight Wonders

I was tossing in my bed in the midnight hour, struggling to get a wink of sleep, but my eyes lay on the clock tower.

I looked upon the dark sky; it was adorned with sparkling pearls, which giggled at me and put a shine to my curls.

I gazed at the chubby moon, which was white and glistening like milk. Gave me a lovely, motherly smile through her lips as rosy pink.

All these magnificent objects made my mind calm. My eyelids started drooping. I was grateful for their wonderful charm.

Nature had arrived to aid me when I was trying to catch sleep. She, with her caring palms, lulled me to slumber, so deep.

### Question 1.

The poet was tossing in the bed awake because \_\_\_\_\_

- (a) he was worried
- (b) he was struggling to sleep
- (c) it was day time
- (d) he was tired

**Answer:**

- (b) he was struggling to sleep

### Question 2.

The \_\_\_\_\_ were 'sparkling as pearls'.

- (a) moon
- (b) sun
- (c) stars
- (d) meteoroids

**Answer:**

(c) stars

**Question 3.**

The \_\_\_\_\_ gave the poet a motherly smile.

- (a) sun
- (b) stars
- (c) moon
- (d) sky

**Answer:**

(c) moon

**Question 4.**

\_\_\_\_\_ made the poet's eyelids droop.

- (a) Nature
- (b) Rosy lips
- (c) Songs
- (d) Tiredness

**Answer:**

(a) Nature

**Question 5.**

\_\_\_\_\_ is the title of the poem.

- (a) Wonders
- (b) Midnight Wonders
- (c) Nature
- (d) Midnight dreams

**Answer:**

(b) Midnight Wonders

**Our Casuarina Tree About The Poet**



Toru Dutt (1856 – 1877) was a Bengali poet from the Indian subcontinent, who wrote in English and French. She was the third daughter of the family. The Dutt family was a family of distinguished intellectuals and poets. Despite being taught by British tutors, she retained her fondness for Indian culture and sensibilities. 'Ancient Ballads' and 'Legends of

Hindustan' (1882) are her well-known collections of poems in English. She has to her credit a volume of poems in French titled 'Sheaf Gleaned in French Fields' (1875). 'Our Casuarina Tree', the most well-known of Toru's poems, was included in her 'Miscellaneous Poems'.

## **Our Casuarina Tree Summary in English**

### **Introduction**



'Our Casuarina Tree' is the most celebrated poem of Toru Dutt. The theme of the poem is about last friendships and lost childhood. The Casuarina Tree is the living symbol of their childhood friendship. So, she writes an ode to it.

### **Description of the tree**

The poet recalls that the Casuarina Tree was almost tall enough to touch the stars. It was strong with scars on its trunk. Though the creeper had cut into its trunk, it had given its support like a gentleman, for the creeper to lean and grow. She remembers that the tree was always in full bloom giving room to bees and birds. Throughout her childhood, the tree was seen not only as a paragon of strength but also as a gentle and peaceful asylum loved by birds and bees.

### **Mornings in the company of the Casuarina Tree**

She always used to wake up to the sight of the tree. Whatever be the season (i.e.) winter or summer, her mornings would never be complete without seeing the Casuarina Tree. She had often seen a baboon sitting at its crest. The poet paints a serene picture of the morning. Kokilas sing, cows graze in the pasture and water Lillies smile in the spring. But the tree

plays the central role in the mornings and in the life of the poet.

## Reasons for the bonding between the tree and the poet



The poet does not hold the tree dear just because of its gigantic structure. There was an emotional bond between her and the tree. She and her friends played under the tree during their childhood days. As she held her childhood friends dear she couldn't think the tree apart because it had become a living reminder of her precious friends.

## Lament of the friendly tree

Whenever the poet was away far in the coasts of Italy or France, she could hear the lament of the tree conveying its grief of feeling her absence. Strolling under moonlight on the sea coasts she could hear the sad song of the tree. It reminded her of the Casuarina Tree. In moments of tranquil solitude. She travels down the memory lane to the childhood days which are interlinked with the Casuarina Tree. The tree has become an integral part of her life. She moved on. Her friends also did. But the tree is rooted to the same spot as a monument of her pure childhood friendship with her friends

## Immortality conferred

Similar to Shakespeare, the poet believes in the ability of her poem to immortalize the Casuarina Tree. She wishes to add it to the list of deathless trees of Borrowdale. She expresses her wish that her love expressed in her poems would confer immortality on the tree. The tree would live forever.

## Conclusion

The Casuarina Tree holds a special place in the heart of Torn Dutt because it was under the same tree she and her friends played. Her own younger siblings also had spent a lot of time under the tree. They had died. The tree had become a symbol of their everlasting friendship. So, the tree is endearing to the poet.



# Supplementary Life of Pi

## Warm Up

Imagine you are going on a trek or an adventure. It requires grit and a strong will to survive the odds and emerge unscathed. Most importantly, you should carry an emergency kit.



Choose the ten most essential items from the box below and complete the table.

Non-Perishable Food, News Paper, Bean Bags, Whistle to Signal For Help, Flashlights, Can Opener, Shampoo, Utensils, Fruits, Soap, Camera, Paper Plates, Plastic Cups, Head Phones, Goggles, Radio, Matches, Charger, Candles, Local Maps, Magazines, Books, Money, Paper Towels, Batteries, Knife, Tube Tent / Bivvy Bag, Slippers, Mobile Phone, Mouth Wash, Lighter, Candy Pen and Notepad, Umbrella, Deodorant, Water Bottles, Tooth Brush and Toothpaste, Warm Blanket

First-Aid Kit				

Answer:

First-Aid Kit	Flashlights	Batteries	Warm blanket	Knife
Tube tent/Bivvy bag	Local Maps	Candles	Matches	Whistle to signal for help

**1. Answer the following questions in a sentence or two each, based on your understanding of the story.**

Question (a)

Describe the pathetic condition of Pi in the middle of the ocean.

Answer:

The life of Pi in the middle of the ocean is very pathetic that he was alone and orphaned. He was totally surrounded by a terrible creature in the ocean, hoping that he might drown before being eaten.

Question (b)

Who was Richard Parker?

Answer:

Richard Parker was a Bengal tiger. It stayed in the same boat. Each was cautious of the other.

Question (c)

Richard Parker's survival seemed incredible to Pi. Why?

Answer:

Richard Parker's survival seemed incredible to Pi because as a tiger it gives Pi the motivation to continue living and becomes his companion on the small lifeboat. Despite the obvious dangers of being trapped on a small boat with a tiger, he develops mutual respect and a close relationship with Richard Parker.

Question (d)

Why was the great beast not behaving naturally?

Answer:

It was unnatural of the 450-pound heavy tiger to lie quietly for two and half days unnoticed by Pi in the lower deck of the boat. It was suffering from seasickness and sedation. Pi's father had sedated it early to lessen the stress of sea voyage on the animal. That is why it behaved unnaturally.



Question (e)

Why was Pi not afraid of the hyena?

Answer:

Pi was no longer afraid of the hyena because it was not ten feet away from the visible of Richard Parker. Richard Parker's presence in the lifeboat made Pi not to get afraid of the hyena.

Question (f)

Describe Pi's struggle to find drinking water.

Answer:

Pi was just two feet above Richard Parker. He moved the yellow tarpaulin. Thirst egged him on to unroll the tight tarpaulin. He saw the bow and it had an end bench. Upon it, a harp glittered like a diamond. He found a lid shaped like a rounded-out triangle. He found a pile of orange life jackets. He undid the harp and opened the lid. It opened on to a locker. The open locker shined with new things. He found water cans piled up.

Question (g)

What was Pi's reaction when he discovered drinking water?

Answer:

Pi's reaction when he discovered drinking water in the lifeboat did not have any limit to his joy. On seeing the 500ml water bottle, Pi was happy that he was about to be delivered from his hellish thirst. His pulse raced at the thought.

Question (h)

Why did Pi want to tame Parker?

Answer:

A part of Pi was glad about Richard Parker. A part of Pi did not want Richard Parker to die because if he died, Pi would be left alone to deal with despair, a foe is much more formidable than a tiger. So, he wanted to tame Richard Parker.

Question (i)

What saved Pi's life?

Answer:

Richard Parker's presence in the lifeboat keeps Pi alive because it calms him and saves him from loneliness.

Question (j)

How did Pi reunite with this family?

Answer:

Richard Parker and Pi reached an island. Parker left him without even looking back at him. A ship did find Pi and he got reunited with his family.

## Additional Questions

Question (a)

How many days did Pi drift on a lifeboat in the pacific ocean?

Answer:

Pi drifted on a boat in the pacific ocean for 227 days.

Question (b)

What happened to the ship Pi sailed with his family?

Answer:

The ship disappeared with much burbling and belching lights flickered and went out.

Question (c)

What did Pi look for after the ship sank?

Answer:

Pi looked about for his family, for survivors, for another boat, and for anything that might bring him hope.

Question (d)

Why did Pi find himself very weak?

Answer:

For about three days Pi had not had a drop of water to drink. He did not have a minute of sleep in three days. So, he found himself very weak.

Question (e)

What appeared to be a conundrum for Pi?

Answer:

Pi had failed to notice the presence of a 450 pound Bengal Tiger in his lifeboat for about two and a half days. The boat was just twenty-six feet long. So, his failure to notice the big beast in a small boat appeared to be a conundrum.

Question (f)

Why did Richard Parker seem to be the largest stowaway in the history of navigation?

Answer:

Richard Parker was 450 pounds heavy. He was covered from the tip of his nose to the tip of his tail over a third of the length of the ship he was on. So, the feat surely made Richard Parker the largest stowaway proportionately speaking in the history of navigation.

## 2. Answer the following questions in about 50 words.

Question (a)

How did the presence of Richard Parker help Pi?

Answer:

Richard Parker, the adult Bengal tiger who ended up in the lifeboat with Pi, helped to keep him alive in many ways. Due to the presence of Richard Parker, Pi escaped from the hyena as the tiger is responsible for killing it. Richard Parker also helps Pi to keep alive through his companionship. Thus the presence of Richard Parker helped Pi.

Question (b)

Describe the lifeboat.

Answer:

The life-boat was three and a half feet deep, eight feet wide, and twenty-six feet long exactly. It was designed to accommodate a maximum of thirty-two people. But just the presence of three (i.e.) Zebra, hyena, and the tiger along with him made it appear that the boat was already crowded. In the lower part, there were many orange lifeboats and packaged drinking water kept in a closed box.

Question (c)

How did Pi feel after drinking water?

Answer:

After drinking water Pi feels very pure, delicious, beautiful, and crystalline water flowed into his system. He drank four cans, out of thirst and felt better in his life. A sense of well being quickly overcame him. His mouth became moist and soft. His heart began to beat like a merry drum and blood started flowing through his veins.

Question (d)

Did Pi want Richard Parker to die? Answer, giving reasons.

Answer:

No, Pi did not want Richard Parker to die. He was in fact glad about Parker. If he still had the will to live, it was because of Parker. He kept him from thinking too much about his family and the tragic circumstances. Though he hated him for his capability to strike terror in his heart, he wanted him to live. If Parker died, Pi will have to live alone with despair which is a much more formidable enemy than Parker himself.

## Additional Questions

Question (a)

Why did Pi compare himself to a losing Tennis champion who bounces back towards the end?

Answer:

Pi was pitted against two foes. The first was a hyena and the second was Richard Parker, the Bengal tiger. The presence of a tiger made the hyena very quiet. Though he was scared of a hyena, the presence of Parker outmatched him. Thirst made him overcome the fear of both foes. The debilitating thirst made him look for water inside the boat. This was like a losing Tennis champion who attacks the confident foe fearing nothing.

### 3. Answer in a paragraph.

Question (a)

How did the presence of Richard Parker influence the attitude of Pi during his stay on the boat?

Answer:

[Richard Parker-gives Pi-motivation-becomes-companion-small life boat-in the middle of the ocean-one another for survival-develops a mutual respect-with Richard Parker-allegorical representation of God].

Richard Parker as a tiger gives Pi the motivation to continue living and becomes his companion on the small lifeboat. Stranded in the middle of the ocean, both Richard Parker and Pi are forced to rely on one another for survival. Pi discovers a sense of duty to Richard Parker, which forces him to get up each morning and attempt to feed the tiger.

Despite the obvious dangers of being trapped on a small boat with a tiger, Pi develops mutual respect and a close relationship with Richard Parker. It represents allegorically and each representation influences Pi's survival differently. Richard Parker as an allegorical representation of God offers Pi motivation to survive through the fear of death and the hope of discovering the truth through religion. Thus the presence of Richard Parker influenced the attitude of Pi.

Question (b)

Water is the elixir of life. Substantiate the statement with reference to the story of 'Life Of Pi'.

Answer:

The author calls it 'liquid life'. For a thirsty man, a cup of water is more precious than gold. He had not drunk water for two and a half days after the shipwreck. Pi drank two liters of the most exquisite nectar (i.e.) water. Suddenly Pi's forehead was wet with fresh perspiration. Everything in him right down to the pores of his skin was expressing joy. A sense of well-being quickly overcame him. His skin relaxed, his joints moved with greater ease.

His heart began to beat like a merry drum. Blood started flowing through his veins like cars from a wedding party honking their way through the town. Strength and suppleness came back to his muscles. His head became clearer. Truly he was returning to life from the world of the dead. After being thirsty for a while, to be drunk on the water is noble and ecstatic basked in bliss and plentitude for several minutes. These experiences of Pi highlight the indisputable fact that water is the elixir of life.

Question (c)

If you were lost at sea for as long as Pi was, what is the one item you would want with you? Write a diary entry in which you identify the item and explain why it is the one thing you

would want with you.

Answer:

There are many essential things that we may need in our life. For everyone's life, it is important to note that they must bring the necessary things on their way to journey. If I were lost at sea like Pi in the story, I would no doubt bring only water with me. Because life in the ocean is very crucial without water. Though surrounded by full of water, it is not suitable for drinking as it contains salt.

Moreover, it is very difficult to survive without water. One may live without food and not without water. One can tolerate one's hunger but nobody can tolerate his thirst. Thirst may kill a person rather than hunger. We can adjust to any situation but not to feelings of thirst. Therefore it is essential to bring necessary things along with them when they go out for a journey.

## Additional Questions

Question (a)

Why does Pi say that thirst is worse than hunger?

Answer:

Prolonged hunger may result in the discomfort of death due to lack of oxygen. But thirst is a long drawn affair. Lord Jesus Christ died on the cross due to suffocation. But his only desire during the last moments of his life was water to drink. If thirst can be so taxing even God incarnate desires of, one can imagine how an ordinary human could drive a thirsty man to go raving mad in thirst. Pi had never before experienced physical hell than that putrid taste and pasty feeling in the mouth. It was an unbearable pressure at the back of his throat. He had a sensation that his blood was turning into a thick syrup that barely flowed through his veins.

Question (b)

How did Pi convince himself that there must be water on board?

Answer:

The divining rod in Pi's mind dipped sharply and spring gushed forth. He remembered that he was on a genuine regulation lifeboat and such a lifeboat was surely outfitted with supplies. A captain would never fail in so elementary way of preserving water to ensure the safety and survival of his crew in the event of a disaster. Besides, it is natural that a ship chandler would think of making a little extra money under the noble pretext of saving lives. It was settled beyond doubt that there was water on board.

## 4. Sequence the following incidents logically to write the summary of the story 'Life of Pi'.

1. As he looked around, he was shocked to find Richard Parker on board.

2. His search for water took him dangerously close to Richard Parker but nothing could stop him neither Richard Parker nor the hyena
3. Pi left Richard Parker in a jungle and reunited with his family.
4. Pi came back to life and his senses after drinking the elixir of life.
5. He understood that it was Richard Parker who helped him survive for 227 days.
6. He was pinned by weakness having had no food, water or even sleep for nearly three days.
7. Strangely his thirst overpowered his fear of Richard Parker and he went about exploring for ' freshwater.
8. A little later, he succeeded in his search, when he found stacks of cans of drinking water.
9. Pi was stranded in the Pacific on a lifeboat.
10. Then, he realized that Parker who scared him earlier brought him peace, purpose, and wholeness.

Answer:

1. Pi was stranded in the Pacific on a lifeboat.
2. He was pinned by weakness having had no food, water or even sleep for nearly three days.
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8. He understood that it was Richard Parker who helped him survive for 227 days.
9. Then, he realized that Parker who scared him earlier brought him peace, purpose and wholeness.
10. Pi left Richard Parker in a jungle and reunited with his family.

### Life of Pi About The Author



Yann Martel was born in Spain to French Canadian parents. Martel's father worked as a diplomat and the family moved to Costa Rica, France, Mexico, and Canada during Martel's

childhood. He grew up speaking both French and English. Martel studied philosophy at Trent University in Ontario and later spent a year in India visiting religious sisters and zoos.

His first three books received little critical or popular attention but with the publication of *Life of Pi* in 2001, Martel became internationally famous and he was awarded the Man Booker Prize in 2002.

## **Life of Pi Summary in English**

### **Introduction**

Pi recounts the ordeal he faced in the middle of the Pacific Ocean after the shipwreck. Francis Adirubasamy, a close business associate of his father, a swimming champion taught him to swim. He also gave him his unusual name Piscine Molitor, a Persian swimming club he used to frequent. Pi is named after that swimming club (i.e) Piscine Molitor. Pi's father once ran a zoo in Pondicherry. As the political situation in India was volatile, he decided to shift the family to Canada. They set sail in a cargo ship on June 21, 1977. A crew and many cages full of animals sailed along with them in that cargo ship.

### **Crisis in the mid-ocean**

When the cargo ship was sailing in the middle of the Pacific Ocean, there was a huge storm. The ship started sinking. Pi jumped into a lifeboat. Very soon he found himself in the company of Richard Parker, a tiger, a zebra, and a hyena, all in a state of shock. Initially, the hyena keeps quiet and hides behind the zebra unwilling to confront the tiger. After two and a half days of drifting in the lifeboat, Pi discovered that Richard Parker was on board just below him. He was unusually quiet because of sea-sickness and the impact of heavy sedation given to him by Pi's father.

### **Water, water everywhere but no water to drink**



Pi felt very thirsty. His blood had thickened. His legs had become stiff. He was afraid that he may die if he did not drink liquid life.

### **Search for drinking water**

When he lifted the yellow tarpaulin, he found Richard Parker just two feet below his legs.

Initially, he was scared of seeking the attention of Richard Parker. But his thirst was so much that he preferred to risk his life to find water. The narrator says, 'thirst is worse than hunger'. Even Jesus Christ who died on the cross yearned for water only before dying. He opened the tarpaulin still further and found a hyena looking at him. But Pi wasn't afraid as much more formidable 450-pound heavy beast was there between him and the hyena

## Analysis of the boat

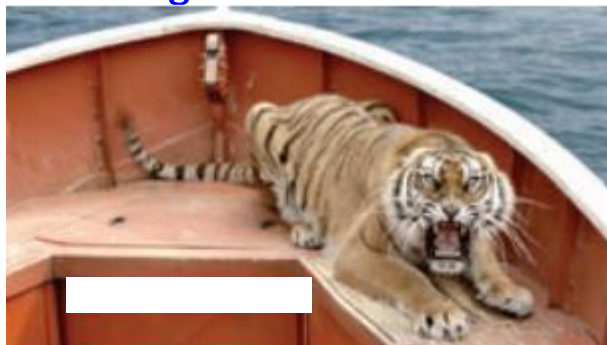
Pi found that the boat was three and a half feet deep and eight feet wide and twenty-six feet long. It was designed to accommodate 32 people. But it appeared to be cramped due to the presence of three animals (i.e.) zebra, Richard Parker, and the hyena. Tarpaulin, life jackets the lifeboat, and the oars were also orange in color. Even the plastic headless whistle was orange in colour.

## Discovery of drinking water



The narrator felt like a dried out lizard. He undid the hasp quietly. He pulled on the lid. It opened on to a locker. He looked down between his legs and got delighted because new things glistened. He experienced a heady mixture of hope, surprise, disbelief, thrill, gratitude all crushed into one. He was positively giddy with happiness. The wine of life was found in pale golden cans. Each can contain 500 ml. He felt that he was about to be released from the hell of thirst. He had water stock to last for 124 days.

## Returning from the world of the dead





He hit the other end of the can hard against the hook. At a stretch, he gulped down 4 cans (i.e.) 2 liters of water. It was the most exquisite of nectars. His forehead was wet with fresh, clean refreshing perspiration, his skin relaxed. His joints moved with greater ease. His heart began to beat like a merry drum, blood flowed through his veins like cars from a wedding party honking their way through the town. Strength and suppleness came back to his muscles. Truly, he was coming back from the world of the dead to life.

## **Parker and Pi**

Richard Parker had finished off the hyena and the zebra. So, Richard Parker and Pi were literally and figuratively in the same boat. He wanted to tame Parker to stay alive.

## **Richard parker's help**

It was Richard Parker's presence that shut off all the other memories of family tragedy and the tragic circumstances he was in. Richard Parker egged him to go on living. He hated Parker yet felt grateful to him. He admits that without Parker, he wouldn't have been alive to tell the story of his survival.

Inevitable separation

At last Pi's boat reached an island. Richard Parker jumped and walked away without even looking back at Pi. Pi was found by a ship. He got reunited with the other family members.

## **Conclusion**

The life of Pi teaches us the great lesson that one should focus on living even in the most adverse situation in life.